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Reader submissions are welcome. Due to the huge volume we receive, please accept our apologies if we do not respond right away.

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On Our Cover:



31st Annual Sandestin Wine Festival
April 20-23
SandestinWineFestival.com

Opening Remarks

And the Award for Best Acceptance Speech Goes to...

“Enough about the Beachcomber Music Awards!” you’re probably saying to yourself. “That was a month ago. It’s time to move on to more important things, like when are you going to dust off your Spring Break song and start performing it around town again?”

I can see where you’re coming from, but I believe in milking the good will for as long as I can get away with it—until, say, March 2018, when we do the next awards. Besides, this year’s Hall of Fame winner JoE Fingas still has a lot of those cool t-shirts left for sale.

And on Saturday, **April 8**, quite a few of our award-winning musicians will appear at the Okaloosa RevFest in Downtown Fort Walton Beach, which starts at noon and lasts until the wee wee hours.

I’m hoping **Scott Rockwood**, this year’s winner for Best Guitarist, will be there—performing with the Wide Open, jamming with the Good Lookings, or just hanging out. I missed him at our big event March 6 at Graffiti & the Funky Blues Shack in Destin. (Nic Turner accepted on his behalf).

But he did have a couple weeks to think about his acceptance speech, which he posted on Facebook recently. It’s heartfelt, beautiful and non-partisan. I’m happy to include the following excerpt without Mr. Rockwood’s permission:

Thanks to Chris Manson, Nikki Hedrick and the extremely cool folks at Beachcomber (who) shine a spotlight on our local arts, music and culture. We are spoiled to actually still have a locally owned and operated arts and entertainment magazine.



The new Beachcomber banner makes its public debut Saturday, April 8, at the Okaloosa RevFest in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. Huge thanks to Mike Flatau, whose band New Earth Army performs at the daylong event, along with tons of other local and regional acts.

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This Issue's Contributors

Joni Williams ("The Unaffordable Health Care Act") enjoys eating, drinking and hitting the road on the spur of the moment, which is pretty much what she writes about, too. Most of the time.

Chris Leavenworth (Beachcomber's Record Roundup) has lived in Northwest Florida his whole life. In addition to his work with Destin Harvest and time spent with family and his dog, Chris enjoys good conversations, reading books, writing, and playing music.

Jane Morgan (Beachcomber's Record Roundup) lives in Brooklyn, New York, but grew up in Destin. She graduated from New York University, where she studied music branding and criticism.

Nikki Hedrick ("Hip-Hop Piece"), a resident of Seagrove Beach, is a photographer, longtime *Beachcomber* contributor and co-owner of 850 Music and Entertainment. She has already failed in her 2017 New Year's resolution to get to the beach more than once a month.

Zandra Wolfgram (Bartender of the Issue), an effervescent journalist and publicist, is known for erupting into spontaneous celebration at the least amount of provocation, especially when a champagne toast is likely to occur.

Kimberly White ("Everybody Must Get Stoked") began her journalism career in 1997 and spent the ensuing years working as an editor, reporter, radio newscaster and producer at media outlets across the country. She is an avid reader and lover of all things German shepherd.

Samantha Lambert (Nonprofit Spotlight) has been back in Florida for six months now and is really enjoying the weather. She loves interviewing people and writing stories for *Beachcomber*. She also enjoys visiting parts of the area that have grown tremendously since she grew up here in the 1970s.

Kellyanne Bartleson (Family-Friendly Events) is the creator of **[EmeraldCoastKids.org](#)**, a comprehensive online resource guide for all things kids, teens and families in Walton and Okaloosa counties.

Jim Clark (Purses with a Purpose) believes in work, play and passion. He is a Destin artist who draws and paints and loves graphic design and photography. Check out more at [iamjimclark.com](#).

Wynn Parks (Books) writes tales of Magic Realism, and lives in Santa Rosa Beach with his wife, whom he calls "the most memorable English lady since Mary Poppins."

Hunter Forbes (Outdoors) is owner and guide at 30A Guide Service and Southern Whitetail Outfitters. He's also a freelance outdoor photographer and lives in Santa Rosa Beach.

Jenna Taylor (Outdoors) is an avid outdoorswoman, content creator and writer. Born and raised in Kentucky, she now lives in Santa Rosa Beach.

Opening Remarks CONTINUED...

To everyone that voted for me, I honestly didn't expect to win this award, so thank you.

And to everyone that voted, thanks for supporting local music and musicians.

Thanks to Shawn Hartung, for not only being the most important person in my life, but also for supporting me 100 percent to do what I love. And for playing music with me for 20 years.

He goes on to thank his parents, his many bandmates and collaborators, as well as the venues that provide him and his fellow artists the opportunity "to play music on this little stretch of the Gulf Coast" and Chris Alvarado, our local "Is there anything he isn't great at?" guy, for keeping Rockwood's guitars in working order.

Scott, I hope to see you sometime this month, which is extremely likely since you're in about a dozen bands. Congrats, and don't book yourself for the first Monday of March 2018.

- Chris





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Local Rescue Organizations Take in 47 Dachshunds

Save Underdogs and **Alaquia Animal Refuge**, two Panhandle animal rescue organizations, took in 47 Dachshunds recently from a hoarding situation in Arkansas. Locals there reached out when resources in their area were unable to help and the situation became urgent.

Efforts to find homes for the dogs had failed, and the dogs were at risk of being turned over to the local shelter and euthanized.

“Unfortunately, rescue organizations stay full all the time, but when you hear about cases like this one, we do what we can to make it work,” says **Terri Bondi**, founder of **Save Underdogs**. “We work closely with **Alaquia** and are grateful that they could help, as it would have been impossible for us to absorb so many.”

The dogs range from several months old to approximately five years. They will be evaluated, spayed or neutered, and will be available for adoption once they are healthy.

“This is a prime example of a caring individual who did not spay or neuter his pets and quickly got in over his head,” says **Alaquia** founder **Laurie Hood**. “These dogs are the lucky ones, but so many are not fortunate enough to find rescues or good homes. The networking involved in getting these animals to safety was amazing. It takes a village, and groups like **Save Underdogs** who will go above and beyond to help.”

Large intakes like this one put a strain on rescue organizations. Both groups depend on donations to be able to help animals like these, and donations, adoptions and volunteers are always needed.

- Mary Chris Murry



Seaside School Welcomes Inspiring Star Athletes

Seaside School is on the ball, so to speak. Students at both campuses—**Seaside Neighborhood School** and **Seacoast Collegiate High School**—got a chance to “play around” with two stellar **Team USA** athletes when it hosted U.S. soccer star **Cobi Jones** and Paralympian volleyball gold medalist **Kari Miller**.

Jones, 47, is easily one of the best soccer players the U.S. has ever produced. A native of California, he is simply known as a sports legend, scoring the first goal in **Los Angeles Galaxy** club history and maintaining the title of the longest standing member and lead scorer of the **Major League Soccer** dynasty. He spent 15 seasons with the team and his number 13 is the only one in club history to be retired.

A 2011 **US Soccer Hall of Fame** inductee and the **CONCACAF** representative for the 2010 **World Cup Draw** in Germany, **Jones** is a two-time **Major League Soccer Cup** winner (2002 and 2005) with a storied international career with the U.S. Men’s National Soccer Team. A permanent fixture from 1992 to 2004, **Jones** played in three **World Cups** (1994, 1998 and 2002).

He amassed 164 caps for the U.S., representing the country more than any other male player in history, scoring 15 goals and 22 assists—the second most in the **National Team** record books. **Jones** also was a member of the 1992 U.S. Olympic Soccer Team. After retiring from the field, he went on to be a successful coach, sports broadcaster and entrepreneur.

Miller, 40, is a world champion that went on to become a three-time Paralympian, winning gold in **Rio de Janeiro** in 2016 and silver twice in both the **London** (2012) and **Beijing** (2008) games.

Miller lost both her legs during a leave from military duty in 1999, when a drunk driver hit a car she was in. She started competing for Paralympic Games in 2007, where she won a silver medal for her participation at **Sitting Volleyball Invitational**. Her illustrious career began, and in 2009, she was honored as Paralympian of the year.

Both acclaimed athletes came to **Seaside School** to meet and greet students, provide demonstrations of



their skills, offer up tips and autographs as well as motivational talks about each of their personal sports journeys.

Seaside Neighborhood School principal **Kim Mixson** says hosting such successful role models is just another way **Seaside School** lives its mission by creating a positive and engaging campus atmosphere.

“Having the chance to meet gold medal Olympic-level athletes in person is

extraordinarily inspiring to anyone, but especially to students,” she says. “When our students can meet and talk with someone who is a highly accomplished winner whom they admire, their lofty dreams can become achievable goals that are much closer in reach. Both athletes were excellent speakers who inspired our students to do their best in athletics and in life.”

For more info, visit **seasideschool.net**.
- Zandra Wolfgram

FRESH SEAFOOD?



One of the first questions people ask when they visit our area is
“How can we be sure we’re getting fresh seafood?”

That’s an excellent question. There is a good chance that the seafood you will be offered traveled farther than you did. In the state of Florida, even though we are surrounded by water, more than 90% of the seafood sold this year will be imported from other countries.

Throughout the United States, the huge majority of seafood is imported. Most of it is mislabeled. Frozen seafood is sold as “fresh” and imported seafood is sold as “local.” According to Oceana, 93% of fish sold as red snapper is actually some other species. 57% of tuna sold at sushi bars throughout the country is not tuna. Most of the tilapia served in this country comes from Viet Nam and Thailand and much of it is farmed in waters with sewage run-off and the source of feed is pig feces.

Harbor Docks has been selling fish through its wholesale market since 1981. We sell to markets across the United States and Canada. We also sell to select restaurants along the Gulf Coast. Harbor Docks contracts with over 100 commercial boats to insure that we have an adequate supply of fresh fish.

We invite you to dine at our restaurants – Harbor Docks, in the heart of Destin, and Camille’s, overlooking the Gulf in Crystal Beach. But we’d also encourage you to try any of the wonderful, independent, local restaurants in our area that are committed to serving Florida seafood. We know who they are, because we sell them their fish.



Check our website to find out which restaurants sell certified Gulf-to-Table fish from Harbor Docks Seafood Market.

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Snapper and Tuna stats: <http://oceana.org/en/news-media/publications/reports/oceana-study-reveals-seafood-fraud-nationwide>
Imported seafood stat: http://www.fishwatch.gov/farmed_seafood/outside_the_us.htm
Tilapia/pig feces: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-11/asian-seafood-raised-on-pig-feces-approved-for-u-s-consumers.html>

Cut Ivanka Trump Some Slack... At Least She's Sane

By Carl Hiaasen, Tribune Content Agency

Some people are bothered that Ivanka Trump has been given an office in the West Wing of the White House. But the truth is we should all be relieved.

Given the sketchy cast of characters surrounding our new president, it's not a bad thing to have a concerned daughter hovering nearby. Most parents, perhaps even Donald Trump, dread the idea of embarrassing their kids.

By most accounts, Ivanka is bright, level-headed and empathetic—in other words, the type of person of which there is currently a dire shortage in her father's inner circle.

And he actually listens to her, though not often enough. Otherwise, his Gallup approval ratings might be higher than 35 percent, a dismal milestone that no other modern president has achieved after only 10 weeks on the job.

It's far-fetched to hope that one person, even a favorite child, could magically transform an erratic 70-year-old lout into a thoughtful statesman. But anybody who can exert even a slightly calming influence on the Big Orange Trumpster deserves office space in the West Wing—and the closer to the president, the better.

Ivanka is also receiving a controversial security clearance, which means she'll have access to some classified information. So does Steve Bannon, who is much scarier.

There's been grumbling because Ivanka has been sitting in on some important White House meetings, but I can't

think of a better way to make her father behave.

While gunning solo, Trump's signature characteristics are pettiness, petulance and paranoia. He needs a grownup in the room with him, and Ivanka is one of the few he trusts.

Her new official title is assistant to the president, but they might as well call her Sane First Daughter. Those wary of her power should ask themselves: How can she possibly make things any worse?

In a few short months her big-mouthed poppa has managed to piss off key American allies around the globe. The next time it's necessary to speak with a world leader, he would be wise to hand Ivanka the phone.

Later this month she'll be traveling to Berlin for a summit on the economic empowerment of women. She was invited by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who recently endured a cringe-worthy meeting with the president and understandably prefers the company of his daughter.

Ivanka also made a positive impression on Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who gamely visited the Oval Office in March and escaped without a presidential insult.

Politically, Ivanka has two potential weak spots. Her husband, presidential adviser Jared Kushner, may face questions from the Senate about his role in arranging meetings between Trump campaign operatives and Russian officials.

Critics have also raised the issue of Ivanka's business interests, including her line of fashion products. They argue

that her prominence at the White House gives a promotional boost to her brand of dresses, shoes, perfume, and purses.

Trump spokesperson Kellyanne Conway already got in trouble for touting Ivanka's products, a spontaneous babble that reportedly angered Sane First Daughter.

Ivanka says she'll give up control of her brand, but will continue to own it. That seems reasonable since she's not getting paid for her West Wing gig. She also must adhere to ethics rules that bar those in government from financially exploiting their positions.

It is in the country's best interest to cut Ivanka some slack on such matters, for these are frantic and dangerous times.

We've got a commander-in-chief who is one rusty screw short of coming unhinged. He doesn't read, barely sleeps, tweets reckless nonsense at all hours, and displays the attention span of a gopher on cocaine.

So if Ivanka is able to catch her father's ear long enough to prevent even one national disaster—screwing millions of elderly Americans out of their healthcare coverage, for instance—then I really don't mind if she sells a few more handbags.

Out of patriotic gratitude, I'd probably go out and buy one for my wife. Maybe two.

And when the Big Orange Trumpster returns to Mar-a-Lago this week—his sixth visit since the inauguration—we should all breathe a little easier if Sane First Daughter is on that plane, too.

Even if she can't completely stop the old man's wacky, wee-hour tweets, she can definitely help him with his spelling.

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, FL 33132.

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Digital Graffiti 2017 Finalists Announced

Digital Graffiti at Alys Beach is proud to announce the finalists for the 2017 festival. Twenty artists from four countries will gather at Alys Beach in May to showcase their digital artwork and vie for cash prizes totaling \$10,000.

“Celebrating our tenth year, Digital Graffiti 2017 marks a deeper relationship between art and architecture,” says event curator **Brett Phares**. “Our shortlist of artists is more established, more virtuosic, and more vivid. Additionally, our new partnership with Christie Digital will make it an experience you won’t want to miss.”

This year, a select group of artists have been invited to participate in the Digital Graffiti Visiting Artist Series, scheduled for **May 10-17**, a week prior to the festival.

The three featured artists include Jinku Kim, Curator’s Choice winner in 2016 from Providence, Rhode Island; Krystal Schultheiss, festival finalist in 2015 from Melbourne, Australia; and Robert Seidel, winner of Best in Show at Digital Graffiti’s inaugural year as well as a former finalist and judge from Berlin, Germany

- Zandra Wolfgram



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ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

AMUSE ART STUDIO, 1389 N. CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach. Drawing and acrylic classes. Call 850-660-6560 for more info.

ARTFUL THINGS, 1087 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Call 850-729-2600 for more info.

Tuesdays. Oil with Rosalyn O’Grady, 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$20 per session plus supplies. Call Ros at 850-865-5343. rosalynogrady.com.

Wednesdays. Watercolor with Lou Kaunzinger, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost for four-week session is \$80 plus supplies. Call Lou at 850-897-1456.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) Classes at the Art Center Gallery, Fort Walton Beach. More info at artsdesignsociety.org.

Mondays and Wednesdays. Clay and Pottery Open Studio, 9 a.m.-noon both days and 6:30-9 p.m. Mondays. Beginners welcome. Cost for morning classes with **Pat Basque** is \$12 (\$10 for ADSO members). Cost for Monday evening class with **Marcy Eady** is \$15 (\$12 for ADSO members). Materials and firing included.

Tuesdays. Art for Children Ages 6-12, 4-5:30 p.m. **Marcy Eady** teaches about the masters and their styles using principles of basic drawing, painting and sculpture. Media vary each week. Cost per month is \$70 (\$60 for ADSO members). All supplies included.

Tuesdays. Oil Painting with Dale Gauvin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Learn the Chiaroscuro technique favored by the old masters. Cost is \$85 (\$70 for ADSO members).

Tuesdays. Open Studio, 7-9:30 p.m. Bring your own supplies (except clay—no clay, please) and work with other Beachcomberland artists. Cost is \$7 (\$5 for ADSO members).

Thursdays. Watercolor Painting with Pat Farwell, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Beginner through advanced. Bring your own supplies—list provided in the ADSO office. Cost is \$85 per month (\$70 for ADSO members).

Fridays. Open Studio, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Same as Tuesdays, but enter through the ADSO office, please.

April 22. Making Pastels with Larry Lou Foster, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. An introduction to the methods and materials in which students make “conte” and witness demonstrations on making toned colored paper for pastel drawings. Cost is \$70 (\$60 for ADSO members). Visit the ADSO website for supply list and signup.

EMERALD COAST GALLERY & GIFTS, Destin. Call 850-460-8644 to register for classes, and visit emeraldcoastartgallery.com for more info.

FULL CIRCLE GALLERY, 29 B Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-362-8041 or visit fullcirclefwb.com for more info.

Thursdays. Pottery a la Carte, 6-8 p.m. Cost per session is \$35.

HERITAGE MUSEUM OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso. Call 850-678-2615 to register.

April 8. Basket Making, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Make a medium wool drying basket with feet. All supplies included. Cost is \$45 (\$40 for museum members).

April 15. Kids’ Jewelry Making, 11 a.m.-noon. Children will create matching necklace and earrings. All supplies included. For ages 8-18. Cost is \$35 (\$30 for museum members).

April 15. Crochet, 1-3 p.m. Learn basic stitches and begin a project of your choice. Bring crochet hook size J. Cost is \$20 (\$15 for museum members).

THE SHARD SHOP in the Shops of Grayton, Grayton Beach. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Open Mon.-Sat., 9:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Classes daily. Adult classes, 9:30 a.m. All ages classes at 11 a.m., 12:45 and 2:15 p.m. Classes last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. All skill levels welcome. Adults start at \$85, kids at \$40. Sign up online at ShardShop.com or call 850-231-0544.

ART EVENTS

THROUGH APRIL 7. MANDY YOURICK’S “FLUIDITY OF PLACE” AT GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE, PANAMA CITY

Yourick, a sixth-generation Panhandle native, is heavily influenced by the shoreline and describes her work as a collection of maps. The exhibit is in the Amelia Center Main Gallery. Closing reception **April 7**, 5-7 p.m. Gallery hours are Mon.-Thu., 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more info, email pamromin@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-872-3886.

THROUGH APRIL 22. SIXTH ANNUAL ROSEMARY BEACH FOUNDATION MUSIC IN PICTURES



Art by Gigi O’Connell.

The arts in education initiative and juried art contest celebrates the music of Leo Delibes, Igor Stravinsky, Astor Piazzolla, Aaron Copland and Phillip Glass. Over 4,000 students from 17 Walton County schools listened to and visually interpreted classical music, and 403 paintings are on display at Amavida Coffee in Rosemary Beach, the Walton County Coastal Library in Santa Rosa Beach, and Sacred Heart Hospital on the Emerald Coast in Miramar Beach. Learn more at rosemarybeachfoundation.org.

THROUGH APRIL 28. ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY’S (ADSO) 18TH ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND DIGITAL ARTS EXHIBITION AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH
Reception Friday, **April 7**, from 6 to 8 p.m. For more info, call 850-244-1271 or visit artsdesignsociety.org.

Art

THROUGH APRIL 30. ADSO WINDOW GALLERY DISPLAY AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH



This month's spotlight falls on the students of clay artists **Pat Basque** and **Sherry Cooler**.

THROUGH APRIL 30. ARTIST OF THE MONTH BENITA TUCKER AT HH ARTS, FORT WALTON BEACH

Tucker has been painting for years, but this is her first time displaying in a gallery. She lives in Fort Walton Beach, but Tucker and her husband are on the board of Pink Pirates of Navarre. This year, she's donating 10 percent of her art proceeds to breast cancer research. Reception Friday, **April 7**, 6-8 p.m. Call 850-218-2155 for more info.

THROUGH APRIL 30. ARNIE HART JURIED STUDENT EXHIBITION AT MATTIE KELLY ARTS CENTER, NICEVILLE

The best works—displayed in the McIlroy Gallery—will be awarded cash prizes totaling \$1,500. Meanwhile, check out the work of NWFSC art faculty in the Holzhauser Gallery. Call 850-729-6044 or email ArtGalleries@nwfsc.edu for more info.

OPENS APRIL 1. PHILLIP BOYCE EXHIBIT AT DESTIN LIBRARY



Local artist Boyce attended Niceville High School and earned degrees from Northwest Florida State College and the University of West Florida. "My main objective with art is to present something new to the area," says the artist. "Focusing less on replicating what makes the area beautiful, and letting it inspire how my work comes out. I aim to inspire, to make people think, smile, relate and call upon their own experience and emotions." The exhibit runs through **April 28**. More at phillipboyce.squarespace.com.

APRIL 7. DOWNTOWN ARTS NIGHT IN DEFUNIAK SPRINGS

Historic Baldwin Avenue hosts over 50 artists, craftspeople and food vendors from 5 to 9 p.m. Enjoy art, music and the downtown merchants who will keep their lights on for you. Performances by **Bruce Naylor**, **Cassidy Freiburger**, **Bella Pryor** and **Shane D'Fury**. For more info, call Cindy at 850-419-3007 or email DowntownArtsNight@gmail.com.

APRIL 15. SECOND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT HH ARTS, FORT WALTON BEACH

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., enjoy refreshments and music, and meet the HH Arts artists and watch them at work.

APRIL 20. ADSO PHOTO CLUB MEETING AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH

Join **Dale Palmer** at 7 p.m. for a discussion of close-up macro photography. Call 850-244-1271 or visit artsdesignsociety.org for more info.

APRIL 26. ADSO LUNCHEON AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH



Join award-winning artist **Carol Ann Cain**, whose acrylic paintings of Boggy landscapes are inspired by "fragments of the woods that appear chaotic." Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m., and cost is \$12 if you make your reservations by Monday, **April 24**. Call Risa at 850-376-3901 or email adsorsvp@gmail.com.

ART GALLERIES

ADARO ART features works from 2015 South Walton Artist of the Year Juan Francisco Adaro, as well as other well-known local and international artists. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Now located in the Shops at the Hub, 7000 E. Scenic Highway 30A, Suite 21, Watersound, 561-985-5767. Email adaro.art@gmail.com or visit adaroart.com for more info.

AMUSE ART STUDIO Acrylic paintings, watercolors and gifts. Owner and artist **Linda Barton** has a Master's Degree in Art Education. Open 2-6 p.m. daily except Wednesdays. 1389 N. CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-660-6560 or 250-901-0718. Check out more at amuseartstudio.com.

ARTFUL THINGS Original oils, watercolors and acrylics, as well as prints and note cards by local artists. Art classes, supplies and custom framing available. 1087 John Sims Pkwy., Niceville, 850-729-2600. www.artfulthings.net.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY Features art shows by local and regional artists. Open afternoons Tuesday through Saturday. Shows change monthly. Art classes and workshops in various media. 17 First Street SE, Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-1271. www.artsdesignsociety.org.

CARA ROY ARTWORKS Florida tropicals, watercolors, posters of all kinds, note cards, original artworks and gift items. Available at Fusion Art Glass Gallery in Seaside and Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. www.cararoyartworks.com.

EMERALD COAST GALLERY & GIFTS features a plethora of one-of-a-kind paintings, handcrafted jewelry, handmade furniture, glass art, prints, home décor and gifts from over 30 local and area artists. Check online at emeraldcoastartgallery.com for classes and workshop schedules. Classes are given by gallery owners **Claire Gagne** and **Jennifer Viaene** and other featured artists

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SATURDAY 7-9 PM APRIL 8 (DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM)

Mattie Kelly Cultural Arts Village
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Bring a chair and picnic or purchase dinner on site.

MattieKellyArtsFoundation.org
850-650-2226

Proceeds benefit MKAF Community Outreach Programs

Art

in the gallery. Classes include acrylic painting, watercolor, mosaic glass and shard glass. Come on in and have some fun! Gallery is located in the McGuire's Shopping Plaza in Destin between Boca Boutique and McGuire's Sushi. 850-460-8644.

FULL CIRCLE GALLERY AND STUDIO is a contemporary and inspirational art space. We feature the works of regional artists in our gallery and offer an array of art classes with award-winning artists. We also have Paint Your Own Pottery. Come get creative with us! Located at 29B Eglin Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-362-8041. www.fullcirclefwb.com.

G & CO. GALLERY (formerly Geana's Art Gallery) Located in City Market, Destin. An exciting art gallery and full service frame and mirror shop offering a large selection of local, regional and international artists ranging from local photography to original fine art. Quality and value is second to none. We ship worldwide. 850-650-0779. www.GAndCoGallery.com.

HH ARTS is a new gallery offering works for sale from local artists in all mediums. There are many award-winning artists displayed in oil, acrylic, encaustic, collage, clay, handmade candles, and handmade jewelry designs in glass, leather and Victorian style. Studio space available for artists at reasonable rates. An outdoor area is also available for plein air painting or classes, with lighting and overhead covering. There will be classes offered for children and adults. Located at 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach (three blocks off 98, across from Troy University). Open Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. For more info, call 850-218-2155 and "like" HH Arts on Facebook.

MARY HONG GALLERY Located next to the Shard Shop in the Shops of Grayton. Mary Hong is the 2014 South Walton Artist of the Year and has been featured in over 10 publications, as well as on the Golf Channel's *Morning Drive Show* and *Emeril's Florida* TV show. Mary's take on glass art incorporates the use of repurposed glass on painted canvas. She and her team offer classes at the Shard Shop located adjacent to her gallery. There is an extensive retail section full of thousands of pounds of glorious glass and art kits to take your ShardWorx on the go. We host parties and team events, too. Gallery is open

Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sundays, noon-5 p.m. 26 Logan Lane, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1416. MaryHongStudio.com.

MATTIE KELLY ART GALLERIES AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE The Arts Center Galleries at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville encompass two galleries showcasing 20 different international, national and regional exhibitions yearly, which are unique to this region. Viewing hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Visit www.mattiekellyartscenter.org or call 850-729-6044.

THE ZOO GALLERY Created in 1979. Locally owned small business. We focus on quality, handcrafted work by hardworking artists. Our galleries showcase an eclectic range of curated artwork from all over the country, a jewelry collection like no other, plus unique clothing lines for women with soul. We keep a sense of wonder. We stand out from the herd. Located in Grayton Beach across from the Red Bar and in Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. [#standoutfromtheherd](https://www.instagram.com/standoutfromtheherd) thezoogallery.com

CALL TO ARTISTS

Arts and Design Society's "On the Menu" Show, open to all artists and inspired by restaurant happenings and "what's on the menu." Turn-in dates are Saturday, **April 29**, 1-4 p.m., and Monday, **May 1**, 9 a.m.-noon. Entry cost is \$35 for two pieces (\$25 for ADSO members). Entry forms at artsdesignsociety.org.

Okaloosa Arts Alliance School Poster Contest, open to all Okaloosa County Schools students. This year's theme is "Summer Fun," and entries can be in any medium. First, second and third place winners in elementary, middle school and high school categories. Deadline for entries is **May 1**. Posters should be on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper and include the artist's name, grade and school. Mail entries to Okaloosa Arts Alliance Poster Contest, P.O. Box 4426, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549, or drop off at the Arts and Design Society (17 First Street, FWB) or HH Arts (100 Beal Parkway South).

Winners will be announced Saturday, **May 6**. Email amybaty1@gmail.com for more info.

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All of this issue's Instagram pictures are from **@cobiaworldchampionships**. Don't miss out on this exciting annual event, happening now through May 8. Thanks to **Caroline Haney** for her contributions.



ABOVE: The tournament's first lady angler, Shannon Summerford, with a 62.4 pounder.



RIGHT: Kevin Moak of the *Papi* weighs in with a 65.1 pounder, landing a third place overall spot.



ABOVE: Rita Saunders with an 88.3-pound slob.



RIGHT: The Long Weekend rolls into Harbor Docks with a 98.8 pound slob caught by Blake Nelson.



[instagram.com/beachcomberdestin](https://www.instagram.com/beachcomberdestin)

Five Area Hip-Hop Artists, Five Stories, Five Chances to Connect

By Nikki Hedrick

Photos by Nikki Hedrick and Edward A. McGrath

I reached out to five hip-hop artists in the area, asking them about their influences and connections to the music. Even with the differences in style and approaches, there is a common thread—by making music, they share a piece of themselves with listeners.

Micky Mouth's approach to music lies in being himself. "Most forget that music is art, and art is self-expression," he says. "Now if you asked most people who know me, they would describe me as 'Micky.' There is no real explanation or way to describe it. There are concepts and opinions that are applicable, but for the most part we are all 'art.' I am a living song, and so are you."



Micky Mouth

Micky performed at the Sixth Annual Beachcomber Music Awards—and took home the Best Rap/Hip-Hop Artist and Best Original Song awards—which he calls one of his favorite performances to date. The night also marked four years of sobriety for Micky.

"The stars truly aligned that evening," he says of the gig, during which he sported a shirt with the word SOBER in big bold type. "I rocked the stage and had a wonderful chance to hear many people tell me they didn't like hip-hop in the slightest bit and that they had a blast. I also had a brief moment to address the crowd of my personal accomplishment of continued sobriety, and the feedback was breathtaking while standing on stage fighting back tears of gratitude."

Although Micky has been a little quiet lately on the music front, he is working toward the release of a new EP. The time away has helped him gain a different perspective on creating. "Through the phases of my development as a person and an artist, I've learned to stop judging myself on what to create and started to embrace creating what I love."



Strange Tang's Price and Obliq

Publicity Photo

The hip-hop duo **Strange Tang** won *Beachcomber's* Best Rap/Hip-Hop Artist two years running, and Price sees music as an opportunity to share new ideas with an eager audience. "I love teaching," he says. "After college, I was a tutor at a nonprofit scholars program. It was there I realized how kids don't remember anything from textbooks, but they remember every word to every song on the radio. I decided that if I'm to teach kids, I needed to go to where they're learning."

"My favorite compliment that I get daily is from people who don't like hip-hop but they love my music. They say it makes them feel the way only good music can, and they forget all about their prejudices."



Big Lo

Pensacola's **Big Lo** was drawn the power and rawness of hip-hop in the late '80s. He calls opening for Ghostface and Raekwon and being asked to do an encore one of his favorite experiences to date.

"My music is like a Choose Your Own Adventure, and I'd like to leave it somewhat open for interpretation," he says of his often-complex lyrics. "I make it for myself so it's not really up to me to determine what the listener connects (with) or whether they connect at all."



Dee Villain

I believe part of the reason Pensacola's hip-hop scene is experiencing a growth spurt is because of Big Lo's Bars Over Bullshit showcases and **Dee Villain's** Safety Meeting showcases. Both give hip-hop artists a platform to raise visibility and cultivate fan bases.

Dee Villain admits that his siblings are the ones who turned him into a hip-hop fan. He now uses music to express his life. "What separates me is myself," he says. "It is 'my' story, 'my' vibe, done my way."

He finds joy in the creation process, even dubbing it "fun stress" when he doesn't perform or write for stretches. "I hope they connect (it) with their reality," says Dee of his songs. "Own yourself and love yourself. It's all I could ever ask."



iTz Giles

For **iTz Giles**, music was an escape. "I was attracted to the freedom of speech and the release of emotions through lyrics," he says.

"The goal is for people to connect emotionally, and to be able to feel what I've been through or how I'm feeling at that moment. We all deal with life everyday, whether it be relationship problems, self-doubt, or depression. I hope for my music to move you spiritually."

Beachcomber Profiles* — Ray Hitchell



Ray's the one wearing the tux.

HOMETOWN: Bayonne, New Jersey, Exit 14A.

AGE: 64.

PROFESSION: Musician and pianist.

HOBBIES: Cooking, grocery shopping, *Jeopardy!*

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS: This is my 20th year performing at the Hilton Sandestin, and this June, I'll celebrate 25 years with my girlfriend Andrea.

PROFILE: I spent four years in the Air Force band in Germany. I met two guys who were contestants in a talent show there. I was originally scheduled to go back to my suck-ass job as a shipping clerk, but they invited me to play with their band Kitchen Sync in Florida. This was Fort Walton Beach, 1975. The band only lasted a year—we had no business sense and no idea of what people wanted to hear.

I moved to Panama City for 14 years and returned here to play at the Seagull in 1990, which lasted until the

hurricane knocked it down. I went to Seagar's, and I've been there ever since.

All I've ever done is music—I played for 14 years with Don Gumpert's Dixieland Saints and lots of other groups. I'm a fourth-generation musician. I started playing piano at age 3.

My number one influence was my dad, a professional piano player. Very busy man. Worked eight hours a day and four hours a night. He died at 47—worked himself to death.

In Germany, I got turned on to Chick Corea. That was a turning point in my life. It was like the transition from black and white to color in *The Wizard of Oz*—a light went off. I've gotten to meet Chick a couple times. He's my idol—his musicianship and his approach to life.

QUOTE: "Music is my mistress. She has no rival." – Duke Ellington

FAVORITE FREE PUBLICATION: *Beachcomber!*

* Inspired by the late great Creem Magazine.

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Frank Carter & the Rattlesnakes

Modern Ruin

International Death Cult



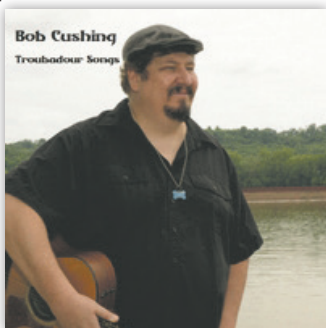
Carter has been the driving force of at least two other bands, both generally labeled as hard rock. But *Modern Ruin* shakes it up with tracks like “Lullaby” and “Real Life and Acid Veins”—slower paced with an airy, rhythmic sound that’s more alt than hard. Others—like the title track and the short ditty “Jackals”—are pounding and punkish, while “Vampires” verges on mainstream contemporary. Overall, it’s diverse, different, and really, really good.

- Joni Williams

Bob Cushing

Troubadour Songs

Independent



Cushing recently relocated to Beachcomberland, and most of these songs focus on his decision to move to our sandy beaches. He takes a personal approach to songwriting, sharing tales of his childhood and his life as a performer. Here’s to Cushing and his journey from Ohio to the Gulf—we look forward to seeing (and hearing) him at our local venues.

- Nikki Hedrick

Drake

More Life

Cash Money Records



More Life finds Drake with a renewed sense of energy and vision. He calls it a playlist, but with 85 minutes of emphatic beats, raps about exes, and patois, it is a Drake album through and through. And it’s his most cohesive and dynamic release in years. This is Drake at his best—flexing his curatorial chops and global influences, lending his shine to mainstay rap and R&B stars and exciting new voices. More than anything, *More Life* is hopeful in sound and sentiment, making the euphoria of a Drake-soundtracked summer feel a little closer.

- Jane Morgan

Nik Flagstar and His Dirty Mangy Dogs

Hard Times

Burning Bridges Records / Roosterball



If you live here and have never seen Flagstar and his band live, you don’t get out enough. They are a cornerstone of the local music scene, and a triumphant example of making the music you want. *Hard Times* is a gritty blend of ‘50s rock ‘n roll, punk, and whiskey-soaked southern culture. It’s a strong testament to this band’s appeal to nearly every music fan whose tastes float outside the mainstream.

- Nikki Hedrick

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra

The Music of John Lewis

Blue Engine Records



The orchestra, led by Wynton Marsalis with guest pianist Jon Batiste, recorded this tasting menu of John Lewis favorites in 2013. The concert honors not only Lewis (who died in 2001), but his own combo, the Modern Jazz Quartet. In addition to two spoken sections by Marsalis and

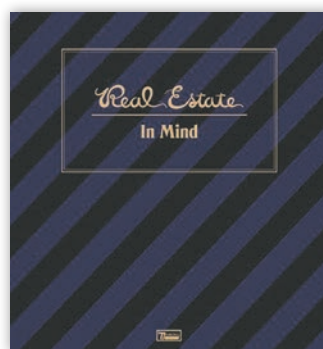
Batiste, the album offers a nine-track playlist that includes “Animal Dance,” “Django” and the perennially swinging “Two Bass Hit.” A Lewis tribute is a logical choice for Marsalis, who relishes his role as jazz historian as much as that of musician. Avant garde it isn’t, but it listens good.

- Bruce Collier

Real Estate

In Mind

Domino



Real Estate’s fourth album feels immediately comforting in its sunny sound and thoughtful meditations on suburbia. Despite several shifts in the band’s original lineup, the signature delicate-and-bouncy sound is in full effect. The album sees the band reflecting on time, nature, love, and the complicated feelings of nostalgia and yearning surrounding these ideas. They explore suburban ennui that could leave them wallowing and hopeless, but instead they treat it with tenderness, never becoming too overwhelmed to find a way through it. *In Mind* transports and delivers a tranquil release from the weight of the world.

- Jane Morgan

Spoon

Hot Thoughts

Matador



Hot Thoughts is a stunningly creative piece of artistic production. For 20 years, Spoon has consistently written and produced brilliant work, and *Hot Thoughts* is on par with (if not better than) their most critically acclaimed albums, *Gimme Fiction* and *Kill The Moonlight*. Britt Daniel’s raspy yet catchy vocals, bouncing off high-energy pop-piano progressions with

fiercely rhythmic guitar and bass, is the core formula the Austin-based band continues to champion. *Hot Thoughts* hasn’t deviated an inch. Spoon’s style is grounded, and the sound is greatly refined. One of the best albums of 2017.

- Chris Leavenworth

Steel Panther

Lower the Bar

Open E Records



Do you miss sleazy metal, big hair and Spandex? Steel Panther aims to be one of the raunchiest, outrageous bands in existence, and they succeed pretty well. Under the heavy layers of sex puns and lyrics that would make any video vixen blush, they’re damned fine musicians paying homage to David Lee Roth-era Van Halen and the glammed-out LA metal scene of the ‘80s.

- Nikki Hedrick

SFJAZZ Collective: Music of Miles Davis & Original Compositions

SFJAZZ Records



The 2016 annual San Francisco Jazz Collective get-together spotlighted the work of trumpeter Miles Davis, and this live recording is the fruit of their endeavor. Among the featured artists are Sean Jones, Miguel Zenon, David Sanchez, Obed Calvaire, Robin Eubanks, Edward Simon, Matt Penman and Warren Wolf. In addition to the Davis playlist (running the gamut from “So What” to “Bitches Brew”), the album offers an additional eight original compositions (by the above artists), commissioned for the occasion by SFJAZZ. It’s good, respectful stuff, which Miles probably would have sneered at, then picked up a copy on his way out.

- Bruce Collier

Live Music

Musicians and venues: Email chris@beachcomberdestin.com to have your gigs listed here.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

AJ’S, Destin
SPLENDID CHAOS, 9:30 p.m.

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

BAMBOO WILLIE’S, Gulf Breeze
THE MOON LAGOONS, 8 p.m.

CAMILLE’S, Destin
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE’S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
POST PLUTO, 9 p.m.

GIOVANNI’S ONE89, Fort Walton Beach
MICHAEL VINCENT BAND

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
MAX McCANN, 5-8 p.m.

HEMINGWAY’S ISLAND GRILLE, Pensacola Beach
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6-9 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5-9 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
ADAM HOLT, 5 p.m.

McGUIRE’S IRISH PUB, Destin
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER

RICK’S CRAB TRAP, Fort Walton Beach
WAYNE HALL, 6 p.m.

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach, www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin, www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-10 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

THE TIPSYPIG, Fort Walton Beach
SPUTZY, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

AJ’S, Destin
SPLENDID CHAOS, 9:30 p.m.

BAYTOWNE LIVE, Village of Baytowne Wharf, baytownewharf.com
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 7-10 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
JONES & COMPANY

CAPT. DAVE’S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com
DIKI ROSS, 5-9 p.m.

CLUB LA, Destin
SLAUGHTER – KICKSTAND JENNY, 8 p.m.

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 6-10 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
DAN HALL, 5-8 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
JIM COUCH, 5ish-9 p.m.
EL DUB, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

LAGERHEADS, Navarre Beach
BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
COCONUT RADIO, 5 p.m.

MARIE’S BISTRO, Santa Rosa Beach
WATERZEDGE, 8 p.m.-Midnight

McGUIRE’S IRISH PUB, Destin
THE MOON LAGOONS, 9 p.m.

MODICA MARKET, Seaside, www.modicamarket.com
THE STEENOS, 5-7 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

THE PERFECT PIG, Santa Rosa Beach
CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

THE REP THEATRE, Seaside, LoveTheRep.com
CHARLIE MARS, 7:30 p.m. (\$25)

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach, www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin, www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-10 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.
FORTAG

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach, www.30asongwriterradio.com
Friday Night Originals, 7-9 p.m.

THE 30A STORE, Seagrove Beach
CASEY KEARNEY, 6 p.m.

THE TIPSYPIG, Fort Walton Beach
THERESA BYRD BAND, 7 p.m.

TWISTED GRAPE CAFE & WINE BAR, Shalimar, 850-651-5100
BENGHAZI GRESHAM, 5-9 p.m.

WORLD OF BEER, Destin Commons
HERITAGE, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

AJ’S, Destin
DJ BOOM, 8 p.m.
SPLENDID CHAOS, 9:30 p.m.

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
CONTINUUM, 9 p.m.

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
FLASH FLOOD DUO, 7-11 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BT TURNER, 3 p.m.
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 8 p.m.

BAYTOWNE LIVE, Village of Baytowne Wharf, baytownewharf.com
STEVIE HALL, 7-10 p.m.

BEST WESTERN, Okaloosa Island
DIKI ROSS, 1 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

BROTULA’S, Destin
FLASH FLOOD DUO, 2-6 p.m.

COASTERS, Fort Walton Beach
NIK FLAGSTAR AND HIS DIRTY MANGY DOGS – V-8 DEATH CAR, 9 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
BOUKOU GROOVE, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
MAX McCANN, 4-7 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BO ADAMS, 5-9 p.m.
SKUNK LIP, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

KC’S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach
RevFest Welcome Jam with THE GOOD LOOKINGS, Noon-1 p.m.
THE WIDE OPEN, 1-2 p.m.
CONTINUUM, 2-3 p.m.
STRANGE TANG, 3-4 p.m.
PAW PAW’S MEDICINE CABINET, 4-5 p.m.
POST PLUTO, 5-6 p.m.
CAPTAIN GREEN, 6-7 p.m.
AJEVA, 7-8 p.m.
NEW EARTH ARMY, 8-9:15 p.m.
COME BACK ALICE, 9:15-10:30 p.m.
BIG SAM’S FUNKY NATION, 10:30-11:45 p.m.
HERITAGE, 11:45 p.m.-1 a.m.
EL DUB, 1-2 a.m.
Okaloosa RevFest V. Beachcomber is proud to be a stage sponsor. More at OkaloosaRevFest.com.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
WEBB DALTON, 5 p.m.

MATTIE KELLY CULTURAL ARTS VILLAGE, Destin, MattieKellyArtsFoundation.org
JERSEY – A BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN TRIBUTE, 7 p.m.
Tickets are \$25 and up. As far as Boss tribute

bands go, these guys are “Tougher Than the Rest”! No drones or pets allowed, except for service animals.

McGUIRE’S IRISH PUB, Destin
BROOKS HUBBERT, 9 p.m.

THE ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK, Fort Walton Beach
WAYNE HALL, 6 p.m.

THE OTHER END, Destin
ROB ROMANS, 5 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

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www.ronadamsentertainment.com

CADILLAC WILLY
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www.cadillacwilly.com

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Pop/Acoustic/Soul
www.reverbnation.com/austinjennings

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mattmccarty.com

NEW EARTH ARMY
Blues/Rock/Funk
theneweartharmy.net

THE RIPS
Surfy Roots Rock
theripstunes.com

DEAN SADOWSKI
Beach/Country/Classic Rock
deansadowski@yahoo.com

SCHATZI + THE STRING BOFFIN
Folked-up Prog Rock
www.SNTSB.com

STRANGE TANG
Hip-Hop/Alternative Rap
www.iheartstrangetang.com

SWAY JAH VU
Reggae/Rock
www.swayjahvu.com

BT TURNER
Tropical Rock/Country
facebook.com/BTTurnerMusic

If you’d like to be listed here, please email chris@beachcomberdestin.com.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach,
www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin,
www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-10 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

THE TANK, Valparaiso
FILMORE DRIVE

THE TIPSY PIG, Fort Walton Beach
MARSHA MARSHA MARSHA, 7 p.m.

WAREHOUSE 360, Santa Rosa Beach
FAREWELL ANGELINA, 7:30-9 p.m.
Benefit show for Path of Grace. Tickets are \$20. More at pathofgrace.net.

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 7-10 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

AJ’S, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 4-8 p.m.
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6-10 p.m.
DJ KO, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

UPCOMING MUSIC RELEASES

APRIL 7

Rahim AlHaj, *Letters from Iraq*
Derrick Anderson, *A World of My Own*
Cory Branan, *Adios*
The Chainsmokers, *Memories...Do Not Open*
Andrew Combs, *Canyons of My Mind* (Also on Vinyl)
Deep Purple, *infinite*
Father John Misty, *Pure Comedy*
Me First and the Gimme Gimmes, *Rake It In: The Greatest Hits* (Also on Vinyl)
Mike + the Mechanics, *Let Me Fly*
B.J. Thomas, *New Looks from an Old Lover: The Complete Columbia Singles*
The Whiskey Gentry, *Dead Ringer*
Wire, *Silver/Lead*
Outlaw: *Celebrating the Music of Waylon Jennings*
Resistance Radio: *The Man in the High Castle Album*

APRIL 14

The Allman Brothers Band, *The Fox Box*.
September 2004 shows from Atlanta’s Fox Theatre.
Barenaked Ladies and the Persuasions, *Ladies and Gentlemen: Barenaked Ladies and the Persuasions*
John Mayer, *The Search for Everything*
Leslie Mendelson, *Love and Murder*
Mike Nesmith, *Infinite Tuesday: Autobiographical Riffs—The Music*
Sam Outlaw, *Tenderheart*
Carl Schuricht, *The Complete Decca Recordings*
Chris Shiflett, *West Coast Town*
The String Cheese Incident, *Believe*

Sources: pauseandplay.com

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
EL DUB, 9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 8 p.m.

BOSHAMPS, Destin
CONTINUUM, 3 p.m.

CAMILLE’S, Destin
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 a.m.-Noon

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA, HarborWalk Village, CrabIslandCantina.com
BT TURNER, 1 p.m.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON WALLACE, et.al., 11 a.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
MATT MCCARTY’s Jazz Jam, 7-10 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach
CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
ROB ROMANS, 5-9 p.m.

JUANA’S PAGODAS, Navarre Beach
COCONUT RADIO, 3 p.m.

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 p.m.
Sunday Funday

LOTUS CAFÉ @ ZEN GARDEN, Panama City Beach
DUSTAN LOUQUE, 5 p.m.
We caught Louque last time he played in town and loved what we heard. This is a donation show, with a seafood boil at 4. Discover more at dustanlouque.com.

THE MARKET SHOPS, Sandestin
LUKE LANGFORD & THE 331 SOUTH BAND, 1-3 p.m.
Concerts on the Lawn

MCGUIRE’S IRISH PUB, Destin
HOPE GIVEN, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

THE OUTPOST, Freeport
MARSHA MARSHA MARSHA, 1 p.m.

PEG LEG PETE’S, Pensacola Beach
ALEXA BURROUGHS, Noon-4 p.m.

POMPANO JOE’S, Miramar Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 2-5 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

STEAMBOAT BAR & GRILL, Santa Rosa Beach
MARI GLEASON, 6 p.m.

STINKY’S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS with FRANKO “WASHBOARD” JACKSON, 11 a.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

TREBEACHE, Santa Rosa Beach
BILL GARRETT – “SMILIN’” FRITZ FROESCHNER, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 10

AJ’S, Destin
DJ KO, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL, 9 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
MOSE WILSON AND THE DELTA TWANG, 8 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach
KYLE LaMONICA, 6 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
JASON FINDLEY, 5-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

AJ’S, Destin
DJ BOOM, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6-9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6-10 p.m.

BAYTOWNE LIVE, Village of Baytowne Wharf, baytownewharf.com
STEVIE HALL, 7-10 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

DESTIN LIBRARY, 850-837-8572
CHERYL JONES, Noon
The 2017 Beachcomber Music Awards Musician of the Year performs on the east lawn as part of Jazz Appreciation month. See page 18 for more info.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
THE GOOD LOOKINGS, 8 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
HOWLIN’ JACK, 5 p.m.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach, www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin, www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
BILL GARRETT, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach, www.30asongwriterradio.com
Open Mic Live, 7-10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

AJ’S, Destin
DJ KO, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
BEN LOFTIN, 9 p.m.

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 5-9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 7-11 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE’S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
CONTINUUM, 8 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailin’ Blues Wednesdays Starring FINGA FAYA, 8 p.m.

HELEN BACK AGAIN, Crestview
DJ DFUNK

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
AUSTIN JENNINGS, 5-9 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
JUSTIN YAWN, 5 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
Singer-Songwriter Open Mic Hosted by CHRISTIAN MAYES

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach, www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin, www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach, www.30asongwriterradio.com
TED ROCKET Radio Program, 7-8 p.m.

THE TIPSY PIG, Fort Walton Beach
BT TURNER, 7 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com
DEPARTURE – A JOURNEY TRIBUTE, 7-9 p.m.
Wednesday Night Concert Series

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 7-10 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

AJ’S, Destin
DJ SERPENT, 8 p.m.
12 SHARP, 9:30 p.m.

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
DJ 30A, 9 p.m.

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

CAMILLE’S, Destin
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE’S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
THE MOON LAGOONS, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
MAX McCANN, 5-8 p.m.

HEMINGWAY’S ISLAND GRILLE, Pensacola Beach
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6-9 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5-9 p.m.

THE HUB 30A, Santa Rosa Beach
BOUKOU GROOVE, 7 p.m.

KC’S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach
EL DUB

LA PLAYA, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 p.m.
Ladies Night

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
LEFTY COLLINS, 5 p.m.

MATTIE KELLY ARTS CENTER, Niceville, MattieKellyArtsCenter.org
One Night of Queen with GARY MULLEN AND THE WORKS, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets are \$35 each. See upper right article for additional info.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

POMPANO JOE’S, Miramar Beach
COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER

RICK’S CRAB TRAP, Fort Walton Beach
WAYNE HALL, 6 p.m.

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach, www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin, www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-10 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

THE TIPSYPIG, Fort Walton Beach
SPUTZY, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
CONTINUUM, 9 p.m.

BAYTOWNE LIVE, Village of Baytowne Wharf, baytownewharf.com
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 7-10 p.m.

BOSHAMPS, Destin
BOUKOU GROOVE, 7 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE’S ON THE GULF, Destin, captdavesonthegulf.com
DIKI ROSS, 5-9 p.m.

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 9 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
ETERNITI, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
SCOTT ROCKWOOD & SHAWN HARTUNG, 5-8 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD’S, Village of Baytowne Wharf
KICKSTAND JENNY, 6 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
JIM COUCH, 5ish-9 p.m.
MODERATE CHOP, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

LAGERHEADS, Navarre Beach
BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
LIGHT TRAVELERS, 5 p.m.

MCGUIRE’S IRISH PUB, Destin
HERITAGE, 9 p.m.

MODICA MARKET, Seaside, www.modicamarket.com
THE STEENOS, 5-7 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

THE PERFECT PIG, Santa Rosa Beach
KATE McRAE and/or CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

POMPANO JOE’S, Miramar Beach
DIKI ROSS, 2 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

Long Live the Queen

Gobo Productions from the United Kingdom proudly presents *One Night of Queen with Gary Mullen and the Works* Thursday, **April 13**, in the Mainstage Theater of the Mattie Kelly Arts Center at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville. The event is the final national touring event of the center’s 20th anniversary season.

The stunning concert experience recreates and celebrates the music of Queen. The event has sold out across Europe and New Zealand and has played to world famous BBC Proms in the Park to a 40,000 strong audience in Hyde Park, London.

Experience the hits of Queen, including “Another One Bites The Dust,” “We Will Rock You,” “Bohemian Rhapsody,” “Crazy Little Thing Called

Love,” “We Are The Champions” and many more. Along with his band the Works, Mullen delivers the look, sound, pomp and showmanship of one of classic rock’s most-loved bands.

The show, now on its tenth consecutive tour of the United States, was developed in 2000 after Mullen won the European ITV’s *Stars In Their Eyes* grand finale with 864,838 votes, more than double the runner up and the most votes ever received in the history of the show.

Tickets are \$35 each or \$30 for groups of 10 or more purchased together, and are available exclusively from the Mattie Kelly Arts Center Box Office, online at **MattieKellyArtsCenter.org**, or by calling 850-729-6000.
- Sylvia Bryan

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
LUKE LANGFORD & THE 331 SOUTH BAND

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach, www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin, www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-10 p.m.

SEVILLE QUARTER, Pensacola
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 5-8 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.
JANUARY NOISE

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach, www.30asongwriterradio.com
Friday Night Originals, 7-9 p.m.

THE 30A STORE, Seagrove Beach
CASEY KEARNEY, 6 p.m.

THE TIPSYPIG, Fort Walton Beach
SUPERFACED, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
FLASH FLOOD DUO, 7-11 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BT TURNER, 3 p.m.
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 8 p.m.

BAYTOWNE LIVE, Village of Baytowne Wharf, baytownewharf.com
STEVIE HALL, 7-10 p.m.

BEST WESTERN, Okaloosa Island
DIKI ROSS, 1 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

BROTULA’S, Destin
FLASH FLOOD DUO, 2-6 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
BANKWALKERS, 9 p.m.
Featuring this year’s Beachcomber Music Award winning guitarist Scott Rockwood.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
GYPSY ELISE & THE ROYAL BLUES, 9 p.m.

GROWLER GARAGE, Santa Rosa Beach
KATE McRAE, 4-7 p.m.

HAMMERHEAD’S, Village of Baytowne Wharf
KICKSTAND JENNY, 6 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BO ADAMS, 5-9 p.m.
ROSHAMBO, 9 p.m.

KC’S SANDBAR, Fort Walton Beach
THE MOON LAGOONS, 9 p.m.

THE ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK, Fort Walton Beach
WAYNE HALL, 6 p.m.

PEG LEG PETE’S, Pensacola Beach
ALEXA BURROUGHS, Noon-4 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach, www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin, www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-10 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.
JANUARY NOISE

THE TIPSYPIG, Fort Walton Beach
WATERZEDGE, 7-11 p.m.

TREBEACHE, Santa Rosa Beach
THE FUNK DISCIPLES, 8 p.m.

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER,
Fort Walton Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 7-10 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

AJ’S, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 4-8 p.m.
DJ KO, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
Open Mic Night with CADILLAC WILLY, 9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY,
Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 8 p.m.

BOSHAMPS, Destin
CONTINUUM, 3 p.m.

CAMILLE’S, Destin
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 a.m.-Noon

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA, HarborWalk
Village, CrabIslandCantina.com
BT TURNER, 1 p.m.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL
CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON
WALLACE, et.al., 11 a.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
MATT McCARTY’s Jazz Jam, 7-10 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
ROB ROMANS, 5-9 p.m.

JUANA’S PAGODAS, Navarre Beach
COCONUT RADIO, 3 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin,
lulubuffett.com/destin
CADILLAC ATTACK, 5 p.m.

THE MARKET SHOPS, Sandestin
DONNIE SUNDAL, 1-3 p.m.
Concerts on the Lawn

McGUIRE’S IRISH PUB, Destin
HOPE GIVEN, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

PEG LEG PETE’S, Pensacola Beach
ALEXA BURROUGHS, Noon-4 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

STEAMBOAT BAR & GRILL, Santa Rosa Beach
MARI GLEASON, 6 p.m.

STINKY’S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS with FRANKO “WASHBOARD”
JACKSON, 11 a.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

TREBEACHE, Santa Rosa Beach
BILL GARRETT – “SMILIN’” FRITZ FROESCHNER,
11 a.m.-2 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 17

AJ’S, Destin
DJ KO, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL, 9 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
MOSE WILSON AND THE DELTA TWANG, 8 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR,
Santa Rosa Beach
KYLE LaMONICA, 6 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
JASON FINDLEY, 5-9 p.m.

POMPANO JOE’S, Miramar Beach
COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

AJ’S, Destin
LUKE LANGFORD & THE 331 SOUTH BAND
DJ BOOM, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU,
Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6-9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6-10 p.m.

BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
BT TURNER, 6 p.m.

CHIRINGO, Santa Rosa Beach
CHRIS ALVARADO, 6 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin,
850-424-6650
THE GOOD LOOKINGS, 8 p.m.

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT’S LULU’S, Destin,
lulubuffett.com/destin
RONNIE PRESLEY, 5 p.m.

THE MARKET SHOPS, Sandestin
CONTINUUM, 5-7 p.m.
Pop & Shop Concerts

POMPANO JOE’S, Miramar Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 2-5 p.m.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach,
www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR’S, Sandestin,
www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE,
Okaloosa Island
BILL GARRETT, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND
COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach,
www.30asongwriterradio.com
Open Mic Live, 7-10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

AJ’S, Destin
DJ KO, 8 p.m.
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9 p.m.

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
CADILLAC WILLY, 9 p.m.

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU,
Fort Walton Beach
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 5-9 p.m.

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 7-11 p.m.

CAPT. DAVE’S ON THE GULF, Destin,
captdavesonthegulf.com
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach,
850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 p.m.



Hey! Cheryl Jones
Jazzes Things Up at
Destin Library



The Friends Guild of the Destin Library hosts a jazz concert with **Dr. Cheryl Jones** Tuesday, **April 11**, at noon on the library’s east lawn. The performance is in recognition of National Library Week and Jazz Appreciation Month.

Jones, the 2017 Beachcomber Music Award winner for Musician of the Year and Best Female Vocalist, has led the band Jones and Company for over 20 years.

Event organizers recommend bringing a sack lunch and folding chair and relax under the beautiful live oaks and soak in “all that jazz.” The show will be moved inside the library in the event of inclement weather.

The Friends Guild is an organization focused on supporting the Destin Library. For more info, email friendsofthedestinlibrary@gmail.com.

- Will Rogers

Live Music

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin,
850-424-6650
CONTINUUM, 8 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailin' Blues Wednesdays Starring FINGA FAYA,
8 p.m.

HELEN BACK AGAIN, Crestview
DJ DFUNK

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
AUSTIN JENNINGS, 5-9 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin,
lulubuffett.com/destin
BT TURNER, 5 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach,
850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach
Singer-Songwriter Open Mic Hosted by
CHRISTIAN MAYES

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
www.RuthChrisDestin.com
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SAENGER THEATRE, Mobile, AL
BOB WEIR, 8 p.m.

SALTWATER GRILL, Panama City Beach,
www.saltwatergrillpcb.com
MICHAEL RORAH

SEAGAR'S, Sandestin,
www.SeagarsDestin.com
RAY HITCHELL, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach,
www.30asongwriterradio.com
TED ROCKET Radio Program, 7-8 p.m.

TAILFINS, Destin
RONNIE SATTERFIELD, 7-10 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, baytownewharf.com
SATISFACTION – A ROLLING STONES TRIBUTE,
7-9 p.m.
Wednesday Night Concert Series

WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBY DUPLESSIS, 7-10 p.m.



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Tuesdays @ 8pm: Good Lookings
Wednesdays @ 8pm: Continuum

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Moon Lagoons
4.14 **FRI** 9
Forrest Williams
4.15 **SET** 9
Bank Walkers
4.16 **SUN** 7
M.M. Jazz Jam

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Sandestin Wine Festival Uncorks the Perfect Pairing with Coastal Living and Meiomi



The Sandestin Wine Festival, one of the top wine festivals in the country, announces the addition of two powerhouse players to the **April 20-23** event.

Coastal Living has signed on as a presenting sponsor for the ninth consecutive year. *Coastal Living* is the premier brand for people who love the coast and the ultimate magazine and resource for coastal decor, food, lifestyle trends and travel.

The event is also pleased to announce that Meiomi will be a featured wine sponsor for the first time. Meiomi will be pouring its three California coastal wines—Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and its brand new Rosé—in the Meiomi Home on **April 21 and 22**.

The Meiomi Home made its debut in 2016, touring the top food and wine

festivals in the U.S. to bring the fresh, approachable taste and style of Meiomi directly to consumers. More than 30,000 wine lovers have tasted Meiomi in the Meiomi Home, a 20-foot by 20-foot structure crafted to resemble a cozy California bungalow.

Tasters will feel at home as they sip Meiomi and discover the elegant, coastal elements of the Meiomi Home. Additional information about each of the wines, vineyard sourcing, and winemaker Melissa Stackhouse, can be found at meiomi.com.

“We’re thrilled to bring the Meiomi Home to Sandestin this year, and to welcome visitors into our California wine bungalow,” says **Clayton Seeto**, Meiomi’s director of event marketing. “Our team will share delicious flavors from coastal California and capture the memory with our Lightbox, which

will be a great reminder of their festival experience and time spent with Meiomi.”

Now in its 31st year, the Sandestin Wine Festival is the most established and continuously running wine festival on the Coast. Known as the “Kentucky Derby of Wine Festivals,” this picture-perfect event is complete with the tasting of hundreds of wines, culinary treats, wine dinners, seminars, live music and more.

Guests are invited to uncork some fun in the sun and see why the Sandestin Wine Festival receives accolades from media around the country.

Proceeds will be donated to the Fisher House, a worthwhile organization that provides free or low-cost lodging to veterans and military families receiving treatment at military medical centers, and Sandestin Foundation for Kids,

whose goal is to make a meaningful and positive difference in children’s lives.

Chief sponsors of the Sandestin Wine Festival include *Coastal Living*, Meiomi, ABC Fine Wine & Spirits, *Good Grit*, Visit South Walton, Publix, 30A, GPL Landscaping, *EC Magazine*, *850 Magazine*, Destin - Fort Walton Beach Airport and SoWal.

Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort provides the convenience of having accommodations that are steps—or a convenient complimentary tram ride—away from the festival. Packages with discounted tickets and deluxe accommodations are available with savings up to 25 percent off (code **WINE17**).

Call 855-516-WINE to talk to a reservation specialist or visit **Sandestin.com/WINE**.

Harbor Docks Charities Hosts Frank Helton Crab Cruncher Classic April 6-10

Harbor Docks Restaurant is set to host the 28th Annual Frank Helton Crab Cruncher Classic Thursday, **April 6**, through Monday, **April 10**. The top cobia fishing teams in the world will be competing for over \$200,000 in awards.

Ten percent of proceeds will go to Harbor Docks Charities, which sponsors Take-a-Kid Fishing Day, an annual event that has allowed more than 8,000 children to enjoy a day fishing in the Gulf of Mexico on boats from the Destin charter fleet the first Sunday every November.

Each night of the tournament will feature a complete dinner. Thursday night's kickoff party will feature a BBQ dinner at Harbor Docks. Friday night, guests will enjoy a Low Country Boil hosted by Trey Nick of Nick's Seafood. La Paz Restaurante and Cantina will provide a fajita buffet Saturday night. The

tournament weigh-ins wrap up Sunday night with a cobia fish fry on the docks hosted by Harbor Docks, followed by an awards dinner Monday.

Harbor Docks' Crab Cruncher Classic is one of the three tournaments that have teamed up this year to create the 2017 Emerald Coast Cobia Triple Crown, a new tournament series to promote cobia fishing on Northwest Florida's Gulf Coast, and to crown an undisputed champion of cobia season. The other tournaments in the Triple Crown series are Boshamps Flathead Classic and the Outcast Cobia Invitational.

The Crab Cruncher Classic is a weekend tournament that takes place during the six-week Cobia World Championships. Harbor Docks has hosted this tournament for over three decades.

In 2016, 122 vessels and thousands of anglers competed for over \$290,000 in cash and prizes and helped raise \$27,745 towards the 22nd Annual Take-a-Kid Fishing Day.

Founded in 1986 and formerly known as Rally for Recreation, Harbor Docks Charities hosts numerous fundraising events throughout the year, including the Cobia World Championships and Crab Cruncher Classic fishing tournament, as well as the Caddyshack Classic Golf Tournament and Harbor Docks Charity Auction.

For more information, visit cobiaworldchampionships.com, call Eddie Morgan at 850-837-2506, or email eddie@cobiaworldchampionships.com.

- Caroline Haney

LuLu's Easter Egg Hunt April 16

Hop on over to see the Easter Bunny and go on a fun and festive Easter egg hunt.

The Easter Bunny visits Lucy Buffett's LuLu's in Destin Easter Sunday, **April 16**, at 2 p.m. Boys and girls will be divided into age groups for safe fun for all.

The FREE family fun includes photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny.

LuLu's is located in Destin at the foot of the Mid-Bay Bridge next to Legendary Marina. For more information, visit lulubuffett.com/destin.

- Kay Phelan



2017 HARBOR DOCKS



Events

All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/web sites for up-to-the-minute details. Send us your April 20-May 3 events by 5 p.m. Thursday, April 13, or they will not be in our next issue. Please submit events in the format used here. Photos welcome. Email chris@beachcomberdestin.com.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

WINE TASTING

TASTE, Fort Walton Beach, 6-8 p.m.

850-226-7417

Sample seven wines and enjoy light tapas and live jazz for just \$15 per person.

WINE TASTING DINNER

Emerald Grande, HarborWalk Village, 7 p.m.

850-424-0622

Savor a chef-selected menu paired with a variety of wines for a unique dining experience. Cost is \$65 per person. Call the number above for reservations.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

THE ART OF BONSAI

Destin Library, 2 p.m.

friendsofthedestinlibrary@gmail.com

A FREE event presented by the Friends Guild of the Destin Library in which Rosemarie Voelker,

trustee of the Bonsai Society of Florida, explains how to create and maintain these beautiful plants. Call 850-837-8572 for more info.

EMERALD COAST TOP SALON 2017

Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, Miramar Beach, 7-10 p.m.

emeraldcoastmagazine.com

Celebrate the area's most accomplished you-know-whats.

WORLD WAR II 75TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE BANQUET

Emerald Coast Convention Center, Okaloosa Island, 5:30 p.m.

850-244-8191

Lt. Col. Richard E. Cole, at 101 years old, is the last surviving Doolittle Raider and is set to attend the gala evening. Other WWII veterans have already confirmed. Plus actor James Madio from HBO's *Band of Brothers*. Individual tickets start at \$50. Call the number above to purchase tickets.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

AWESOME EASTER FOR THE SPECIAL NEEDS COMMUNITY

Silver Sands School, Fort Walton Beach, 10 a.m.-Noon

850-833-9513

The City of Fort Walton Beach's firefighters invite you for a FREE morning of springtime fun, including games, refreshments and Easter surprises.

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF THE EMERALD COAST PRESENTS TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Destin Commons, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

jlec.org



Fundraising event provides families the opportunity to see, touch and learn about a variety of vehicles that service our community. FREE gift bag for the first 250 children to enter. Donation of \$2 per person (\$5 per family) suggested for attendance.

MILITARY FAMILY APPRECIATION DAY

Fort Walton Beach Landing, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

FWBChamber.com

Presented by ZT Motors, the event honors the service and sacrifices made by military families

and veterans throughout Beachcomberland. Live music, children's inflatables, exhibitors and vendors, food and beverages, and more. Plus—drawings for prizes totaling over \$5,000 and appearances by local historians and WWII veterans. Call 850-244-8191 for more info.

SAINT MARY SPRING FLING

Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 6-10 p.m.

saintmaryschool.net

Midway rides, live music from Rockers4Life, refreshments and a chance to win over \$12,000.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET

Seaside, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Behind Raw & Juicy

www.seasidefl.com

Fresh produce, baked goods, dairy products, native plants and other unique offerings.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

THE SCIENCE OF BAKING

Emerald Coast Science Center, Fort Walton Beach, 2-4 p.m.

ECScience.org

Learn about the science of baking with the very knowledgeable folks from Cakemasters Bakery.

MONDAY, APRIL 10

FITNESS ON THE LAWN

The Market Shops, Sandestin, 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

themarketshops.com

FREE and open to individuals of all fitness levels. No registration required, but bring your own mat.

Beachside Worship Services

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION EPISCOPAL CHURCH UECNA

1928 Book of Common Prayer Service, 10 a.m. Sundays, communion service second and fourth Sundays, morning prayer, first and third Sundays. 66 8th Street, Shalimar, 850-651-9800.

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND LIFE CENTER

Contemporary service, 9 a.m. Traditional and youth services at 11 a.m. Weekend beachside services begin at 7:30 a.m. at Henderson Beach State Park Memorial Day weekend. 200 Beach Drive, Destin. 850-837-2021.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday worship services: 8:45 and 11 a.m. Nursery and children's church is available. Wednesday bible study at 7 p.m. Located at 306 S. Geronimo St. in Miramar Beach, three blocks west of Silver Sands Outlet Mall. 850-837-7561.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DESTIN

Sunday bible study at 9:15 a.m., worship service at 10:30 a.m., prayer group at 5 p.m. Wednesday supper at 6 p.m., followed by youth-kids programs and bible study at 6:30. 201 Beach Drive, 850-837-6515.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SEAGROVE

Sunday services at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 4915 E Hwy. 30A, Seagrove, 850-231-2884.

GOOD NEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday services 8:50 a.m., traditional worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday school, 11 a.m., contemporary worship, 4747 Hwy 98W, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-9191.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sundays 8 a.m. worship, 9:15 bible study, 10:30 worship, 4325 Commons Drive, 850-654-1679.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Beach worship at 8 a.m. at Ed Walline Park, intersection of Scenic Highway 30A and CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach. Vintage service at 10:15 a.m. at 3834 U.S. 98 West. For more info, call Pastor Jason

Scheler at 850-267-0322 or email pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday vigil mass, 5 p.m.; Sunday masses, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Daily liturgies, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.; Holy Days of Obligation, 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Fridays, 9-10 a.m.; Confessions, Saturdays, 4-4:45 p.m. or by appointment. 259 Miramar Beach Dr., Destin, 850-837-0358.

SAFE HARBOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 10:30. 801 Airport Road, Destin, 850-837-2133.

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday Vigil mass at 5:30 p.m. year round. Sunday services at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Holy Day services, call the office please. 137 Moll Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, just off U.S. 98. 850-267-2558. www.saintritaparish.org.

SANTA ROSA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Interdenominational service 10 a.m. Sundays. 3524 Hwy. 98W, 850-267-7599.

SHORELINE CHURCH

Non-denominational modern Sunday service at 9 and 10:30 a.m. at AMC Motion Pictures in Destin Commons, and Sundays at 9 and 10:30 a.m. at Uptown Station Campus, Fort Walton Beach. 850-650-8658 or www.shorelinechurch.net.

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Service at 10 a.m. Sundays. 307 Hwy. 98E, Destin, 850-650-2737

ST. MARKELLA & DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday service at 10 a.m. 400 Hwy. 98E, Mary Esther, 850-244-0822.

ST. SIMON'S ON THE SOUND EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. 28 Hwy. 98W, FWB, 850-244-8621.

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 a.m. 101 Matthew one block south of Hwy. 98E, Destin, 850-837-8107.

The Red Bar

850 231-1008
70 Hotz Avenue
Downtown Grayton Beach

WED-SAT • 5:30-10PM
Red Bar Jazz Band

FRI & SAT • 10PM-MIDNIGHT
DJ Lady Muse

SUN • 11AM-3PM
Dread Clampitt

Open Sun.-Thur. 11am-10pm
& Fri.-Sat. 11am-11pm

THEREDBAR.COM

Events

STORYTELLER LIZ AS ROSA PARKS

Walton County Coastal Library, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
youseemore.com/walton



Author and storyteller **Liz Wilson** shares the story of the great civil rights figure. Call 850-267-2809 for more info.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

STERLING VINEYARDS WINE DINNER

Bijoux Restaurant & Spirits, The Market Shops, Sandestin, 6 p.m.
 850-622-0760

Five courses prepared by Executive Chef **Jack McGuckin**, accompanied by fabulous wines. Cost is \$65 per person, and reservations are highly recommended.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT

Destin Library, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
 850-837-8572

For kids ages four and under. Preregistration required by phone or in-person at the library. The hunt includes door prizes, a visit from the Easter Bunny and more.

TRIVIA

World of Beer, Destin Commons, 7:30 p.m.
 Your knowledge of all things useless can win you prizes.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

CITY OF FORT WALTON BEACH EASTER EGG GLOW HUNT

Fort Walton Beach Landing, 6 p.m.
 850-833-9576, 850-833-9580

A FREE event for kids of all ages. Children should bring basket or other container to collect eggs. Word around the campfire is the Easter Bunny himself will make a special appearance.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Walton County Coastal Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 a.m.
 850-267-2809

Bring your favorite basket and join the Easter Bunny in the search for goodies. No reservations required.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY '80S REWIND DANCE PARTY

560 Grand Boulevard, Sandestin, 7:30 p.m.
emeraldcoasttheatre.org

A big-haired dance party and fundraiser for the nonprofit professional theater company. Prizes for "Most Choice" costume, live music from **Shenanigans**, cash bar, silent auction and much more. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Call 850-684-0323 for more info.

KIDS' EASTER CRAFTS

Destin Library, 1-4 p.m.

850-837-8572

For kids ages 4-12. Kids can make magnets, Easter egg decorations or bunny magnets.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

EASTER EXPLOSION

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, Noon-3 p.m.

baytownewharf.com

A fun-filled day of entertainment, lawn games, face-painting, inflatable obstacle course, and, of course, an appearance by the Easter Bunny.

KIDS' EASTER CRAFTS

Destin Library, 10 a.m.-Noon

850-837-8572

For kids ages 4-12. Kids can make magnets, Easter egg decorations or bunny magnets.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET

Seaside, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Behind Raw & Juicy
www.seasidefl.com

Fresh produce, baked goods, dairy products, native plants and other unique offerings.

WRITERS IN SANDALS

Destin Library, 10:30 a.m.-Noon

Celebrate National Poetry Month with your favorite verse. New writers welcome.

MONDAY, APRIL 17

FITNESS ON THE LAWN

The Market Shops, Sandestin, 9 a.m.-10 a.m.
themarketshops.com

FREE and open to individuals of all fitness levels. No registration required, but bring your own mat.

WINE TASTING

Twisted Grape Cafe & Wine Bar, Shalimar, 6-8 p.m.
 850-651-5100
 Twisted Grape knows wine.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

PSYCHIC READINGS WITH MICHAELLE

Stone Soup ISC, Fort Walton Beach, 1-4 p.m.
 850-833-6565

Walk in or call the number here to make an appointment. Cost is \$40.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

TRIVIA

World of Beer, Destin Commons, 7:30 p.m.

Your knowledge of all things useless can win you prizes.



HarborWalk Village staffers present the Emerald Coast Fitness Foundation with a check for \$3,881.76 to support the ECFF's efforts to reopen the Destin Aquatic Center. The donation was made possible by over 700 spirited guests who marched through HarborWalk last month for its largest Grogg March to date.

Family-Friendly Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Lapsit Storytime at Niceville Library, 9:30 a.m. For pre-walkers.

Storytime Class at Walton County Coastal Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 a.m.

Lapsit Storytime at Crestview Library, 10:15 a.m. For ages up to 2.

Lapsit Storytime at Fort Walton Beach Library, 10:30 a.m. For babies and preschoolers.

Toddlers Storytime at Niceville Library, 10:30 a.m. For ages up to 3.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Teen Night at Fudpucker's, Okaloosa Island and Destin locations, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. A party for ages 14-17 with DJ, light show, glow drinks, fog and fun. fudpucker.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

"The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors" Storytime at Barnes & Noble, Destin, 11 a.m. From *New York Times* bestselling author Drew Daywalt, a laugh-out-loud picture book about the classic game. Activities to follow.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

Kids Night Out at Fired Up!, Seaside, 6-8:30 p.m. For ages 6-12. Reserve a spot at firedupseaside.com.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

Lego Club at Walton County Coastal Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 3:30-4:30 p.m. All supplies provided. Call Linda at 850-267-2809 for more info.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

Starfish Family Workshop at Artists at Gulf Place, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Join our pal **John Hollan** for a *Starfish Family* book signing, along with activities for all ages. Cost is \$15. Call 850-622-0400 or visit artistsatgulfplace.com.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

Kids Night Out, various locations in Okaloosa and Walton counties. More at emeraldcoastkids.org/kids-night-out.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

Robotics Day at National Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. A FREE event featuring robot demonstrations in the Blue Angels Atrium, plus FREE screenings of *National Geographic's Robots* in the Giant Screen Theatre.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

Easter Bunny Photo Ops at HarborWalk Village, Destin, 2-4 p.m. Hop on down and get your paws on a FREE 4x6 print.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

Family Bingo at Chick-Fil-A, Niceville, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

Visor Glam with Patty at Artists at Gulf Place, Santa Rosa Beach, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Make and wear a hand-decorated sun visor. Cost is \$12-17. Call 850-622-0400 or visit artistsatgulfplace.com.

Sand Print Art at Artists at Gulf Place, Santa Rosa Beach, 2-4:30 p.m. Bring home a piece of the beach. Cost is \$15. Call 850-622-0400 or visit artistsatgulfplace.com.
 - Kellyanne Bartleson, EmeraldCoastKids.org



Nearly 1,500 fun-loving ladies and gents—not all of whom are pictured here—go "mad" for Sinfonia Gulf Coast's Fifth Annual Wine Women & Shoes fundraiser.

Photo submitted by Zandra Wolfram.

#ICYMI – Purses with a Purpose

Jim Clark, who shared these photos (along with about 150 others), writes: “Spending a couple of hours at Grand Boulevard is always a good time, but attending an event for a great cause is even better. All who attended Purses with a Purpose enjoyed champagne, delicious appetizers, a fun photo booth, plus an opportunity to buy or bid on new and slightly used purses.

“The purses donated by many local businesses and residents again made this year’s event a huge success. Topping off the evening, volunteers and survivors presented a fashion show with designer brand purses.”

Purses with a Purpose benefits Shelter House, a nonprofit center that serves domestic violence and sexual assault victims and survivors in Okaloosa and Walton counties.



Beachcomberland Places

ANTIQUES

DE FRANCE ANTIQUES & FLEA MKT. with over 80+ vendors, lots of unique items to choose from. 230 S.E. Eglin Pkwy. 850-314-7500.

SMITH’S ANTIQUES MALL & INTERIORS MARKET 25,000 sq. ft. and 94 vetted dealers have made Smith’s the favorite with decorators, locals and tourists for over 20 years. Voted Best of the Emerald Coast for 14 consecutive years, Finest on the Emerald Coast, and Best in Destin... need we say more? Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 12500 Emerald Coast Parkway, Miramar Beach (near Silver Sands). 850-654-1484. www.smithsantiquesmall.com.

BOOKSTORES

READ IT AGAIN Used and rare books. Browse inventory and shop online at www.readitagain1.com or just come see us at 703 John Sims Parkway in Niceville, just one block west of Niceville High School. Hours of operation are Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. We have a little bit of everything—popular reads, new releases, fiction, nonfiction, fantasy and science fiction, mystery and suspense, romance, history, military and so much more. 850-279-4646.

EDUCATIONAL

EMERALD COAST SCIENCE CENTER A unique museum allowing visitors to touch and use the exhibits, including optical illusions, a nature room and a wind tunnel. 31 SW Memorial Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-664-1261. www.ecscience.org.

FARMERS' MARKETS

30A FARMERS' MARKETS Two convenient locations. Contact Diane at 850-499-4697 for more info.

- **GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS’ MARKET AT SANDESTIN** 600 Grand Boulevard, Miramar Beach. Saturdays year-round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **30A FARMERS’ MARKET IN ROSEMARY BEACH COMMUNITY** Sundays year-round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursdays (Memorial Day through Labor Day), 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

GOLF

REGATTA BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB This award-winning 18-hole course offers an extraordinary golfing experience for players of all skill levels and was named one of *Golf Digest’s* Top Places to Play. Equipment rental available. 465 Regatta Bay Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8080. www.regattabay.com.

SANTA ROSA GOLF & BEACH CLUB Referred to as the “Purest golf in the Florida Panhandle” by *Golf Magazine*, this 18-hole, par 72 course offers five sets of tees and a challenge for every skill level of handicap. Situated on 80 pristine acres in the heart of Santa Rosa Beach, this course has a unique character only found around the Highway 30A corridor. Holes three through five wind around a complex of dunes, all within a few hundred yards of the Gulf of Mexico. Dining, driving range, putting green and club rentals available. 334 Golf Club Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2229. www.santarosaclub.com.

MARINE PARKS/ AQUARIUMS

GULFARIUM MARINE ADVENTURE PARK Delight in watching dolphins leap and

sea lions play during spectacular shows! Or participate and interact directly with these and other remarkable marine animals including stingrays, seals and penguins during interactive programming (advance reservations required). Enjoy educational exhibits and beautiful Gulf views. Open daily at 9 a.m. 1010 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-243-9046. www.gulfarium.com.

MUSEUMS

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM Open year round, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for holiday hours of operation. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and military and \$3 for children. 108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, 850-837-6611.

INDIAN TEMPLE MOUND MUSEUM Artifacts and displays showing the rich Indian history of this area. 139 Hwy. 98SE, FWB, 850-833-9595.

MUSIC STORES

LEITZ MUSIC Guitars, bass, drums and keyboards, plus recording, DJ and PA equipment. Sales, repairs and lessons. Gibson, Fender, PRS, Taylor, Martin, Ibanez and more. Open Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sundays noon-5 p.m. Located in Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach, 850-863-1099. www.facebook.com/LeitzMusicFWB.

PARKS & PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS

BEASLEY WAYSIDE PARK Picnic tables, public beach area, barbecue grills, bathhouse, and restrooms. Gulf side of Okaloosa Island, Hwy. 98W.

BLACKWATER RIVER STATE PARK NW of FWB off Hwy. 90. You can catch sight of lots of wildlife while camping, canoeing, hiking, and fishing. Milton, 850-983-5363.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BEACH Public parking for this access is located at the south end of CR-83 and Scenic Highway 30-A.

BRACKIN WAYSIDE PARK Gulf side of Okaloosa Island on Hwy. 98W. Facilities include restaurants, saloons, children’s playground, beach volleyball, three beach accesses, showers, public restrooms, and picnic table.

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK offers hiking, birding, beachcombing, swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking along with nine historic buildings. Located at 23937 Panama City Beach Parkway (U.S. 98), 12 miles east of 331, seven miles west of Highway 79. 850-233-5059.

CESSNA BAY Picnic tables, parking, rest rooms and boat access. 1476 N. CR-393.

CLEMENT E. TAYLOR CITY PARK This park is named after one of Destin’s early settlers and is on Choctawhatchee Bay. Chock full of shade trees, there are picnic areas and restrooms, but no camping. Destin, off Calhoun Avenue.

DUNE ALLEN In Dune Allen beach this access has parking, but no bathrooms, showers or picnic area. 5753 Hwy 30-A W., Santa Rosa Beach.

ED WALLINE A large public beach access in South Walton, providing handicapped

parking, picnic tables, restrooms and showers. Intersection of Hwy 30-A and CR-393.

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK An historic homestead under majestic, moss-draped oaks with a home surrounded by lawns and seasonal gardens. Tours of the home are Thursday through Monday hourly beginning at 10 a.m. with the last tour at 3 p.m. The park and picnic areas are open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset and located on CR-395 north off Hwy 98 in Point Washington. Call 850-231-4214 for more information.

GRAYTON BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA Camping, picnics, hiking, swimming, saltwater fishing, and boating. Showers and electricity are part of the amenities. Access from S. Hwy. 30-A, South Walton, 850-267-8300.

GRAYTON DUNES Handicapped and public parking plus beach access. Behind the Red Bar in Grayton Beach.

GULF SHORE MANOR Public restrooms, handicapped and public parking. 3468 E. Hwy 30-A, Seagrove Beach.

GULFVIEW HEIGHTS Located at the end of Gulfview Heights St, behind Goatfeather’s restaurant, this access offers parking, picnic areas and restrooms.

HENDERSON BEACH STATE PARK This park has it all: camping, swimming area sheltered picnic areas, grills, and restrooms. But there is no boat ramp and jet skis and other personal watercraft are prohibited. 17000 Hwy. 98W, Destin, 850-837-7550.



INLET BEACH This area offers handicapped and public parking, restrooms and dune walkovers to the beach. 438 S. Orange St. in Inlet Beach.

LEGION BAY Picnic tables, public parking, boat ramp and restrooms. Intersection of Ponce de Leon and Crest Dr, 191 Crest Dr, Sandestin.

MARIER MEMORIAL PARK Public beach area, picnic tables, barbecue grills, boat ramp, restrooms and bathhouse. Bay side of Okaloosa Island, off Santa Rosa Blvd.

MIRAMAR BEACH ACCESS Parking with public beach access. Scenic Hwy 98 and Driftwood Road, adjacent to Pompano Joe’s.

TOPSAIL HILL STATE PRESERVE Two major freshwater coastal dune lakes are located within the 1,600-acre preserve. Campground entrance and day use entrance are located on West Scenic Highway 30-A, 1/4 mile south of U.S. 98. 850-267-0299. www.floridastateparks.org/topsailhill.

DESTIN EAST PASS TIDE AND SUNSET CHART					
					
4.6	Low High		5:12am 7:57pm	6:29am 7:08pm	71
4.7	Low High		5:37am 9:17pm	6:27am 7:09pm	80
4.8	Low High		5:42am 10:39pm	6:26am 7:09pm	88
4.9	Low Low		5:24am 5:59pm	6:25am 7:10pm	94
4.10	High Low		12:15am 7:10pm	6:24am 7:11pm	87
4.11	High Low		11:15am 8:06pm	6:23am 7:11pm	99
4.12	High Low		11:28am 8:57pm	6:22am 7:12pm	99
4.13	High Low		11:48am 9:48pm	6:21am 7:12pm	97
4.14	High Low		12:14pm 10:45pm	6:19am 7:13pm	93
4.15	High Low		12:47pm 11:49pm	6:18am 7:14pm	88
4.16	High		1:26pm	6:17am 7:14pm	82
4.17	Low High		12:55am 2:12pm	6:16am 7:15pm	74
4.18	Low High		1:56am 3:04pm	6:15am 7:16pm	65
4.19	Low High		2:47am 4:05pm	7:16am 7:07pm	56

Give Me Shelter Helps Those in Need

By Samantha Lambert

Kenny Phillips is a 1976 graduate of Fort Walton Beach High School who still loves to go surfing and be outdoors as much as possible. He has been married to his wife Kim since 1983 and has three grown daughters and two grandchildren. He has owned his business, Kenny Phillips Paint and Carpentry, since 1980.

Phillips grew up in the First Baptist Church of Fort Walton Beach. It was around age 40 that he was inspired by a missionary who had come to speak to the congregation. Clint Akins had been a missionary in Madagascar for about 25 years and had started a seminary there. Madagascar is a third world country off the coast of Mozambique. Akins wanted to build a church in the town of Antsalova.

“As I was listening to Clint’s story, I heard a voice in my ear saying it’s time to give back. It was so loud that I turned around to see who was talking to me,” says Phillips. He then announced to his family at lunch that he was going to Madagascar.

Phillips left for Madagascar in the early part of 2001 after raising funds for the trip. He stayed in the base camp in Morondava on the Mozambique Channel. He wrote in his journal every night.

“That trip changed my world,” says Phillips. He started getting involved in mission work the church was doing and went on trips to Alaska, West Virginia, Nevada and Montana.

“I always came back home wondering—what did I just do? What was the impact? Are we going back? It was an empty feeling that I just could not figure out,” he says.

Akins and Tim Quigley mentored Phillips, helping him to find a better relationship with God. In 2004, Phillips decided he wanted to start a mission organization. “I realized that I needed to be more obedient to God, and things just started coming together,” he says.

Phillips received a call from a friend who was willing to assemble a website. His accountant did the nonprofit paperwork for free. It took less than 90 days to receive the 501(c)(3) certification from the IRS. In 2007, Give Me Shelter Ministries was official. Phillips then set up a board of directors and started raising funds.

At the time, he was working in Mexico with a local pastor there and building houses for women and children. In 2008, Phillips got involved in Haiti. When an earthquake hit Haiti in 2010, Phillips had already built good relations there. He headed there to help with disaster relief.

After that, Phillips continued to make periodic trips to Madagascar and helped Akins. In 2012, Give Me Shelter Ministries opened a school for grades 1-6 in Haiti’s Croix-des-Bouquets and hired teachers. Retired Okaloosa County teacher Nancy Hale was instrumental in helping get the school started.

“The school is in a really poor agricultural community and is still struggling,” says



Kenny Phillips with a Syrian refugee baby.

Phillips. “Parents there want their children in the fields. The school could operate on just \$700 a month.”

A massive cyclone hit the Philippines in 2013. Conscience International out of Roswell, Georgia, was mobilizing to go there. Phillips contacted Jim Jennings from the organization and headed over. He went to a small fishing village called Kinatarkan, which had been decimated by the cyclone. He helped build seven homes for the indigenous villagers there.

In 2015 and 2016, Phillips traveled to Greece and Turkey with Conscience International and worked with Syrian refugees. He helped provide shelter, food and clothing. In 2016, Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti, and Phillips realized the people there were most in need of shelter. So he came back home and began to raise funds.

When Phillips returned to Haiti, he saw that a small village up in the mountains was not receiving any assistance. There were 100 homes there, and 80 needed roofs.

So far, Give Me Shelter Ministries has helped build 10 new roofs. They are looking at doing 70 more, but need to raise at least \$35,000.

“Any donations are 100 percent tax deductible,” he says. “We are a humanitarian relief organization.”

He adds: “This work gives me purpose in my Christian walk. I want people to see my life lived out in a Christian way. The Bible says, *Believers are known by their fruit*. That’s why I do what I do.”

For more information, call 850-496-7398 or visit GiveMeShelterMinistries.org.



How to Bag a Florida Gobbler



By Jenna Taylor
Photos by Hunter Forbes

Florida's spring turkey season came in on March 18 and runs through April 23. If you've never turkey hunted in Florida, here are some things you will need:

- 1. Hunting License.** For residents, \$17. Non-resident 10-day license is \$46.50.
- 2. Management Area Permit** (if not hunting private land). It's \$26.50, or you can sign up for a quota hunt. More info at myfwc.com.
- 3. Turkey Permit.** \$10 for residents, \$125 for nonresidents.
- 4. Turkey Call.** Diaphragm, friction, box, etc.
- 5. Locator Call.** Crow, owl, etc.
- 6. Turkey Vest.** To keep all your calls in, with attached seat or foldable hunting lounger to sit in.
- 7. Shotgun.** 20-gauge or 12-gauge, or compound bow.



8. Extra Full Choke.

9. Shotgun Shells. I use a mixture of 5, 6 and 7.

10. Ghille Suit or Camo.

11. Decoys. I use two hens and a jake.

And here are some things you need to know:

Get familiar with the land. Now that you have everything you need to turkey hunt, we can talk about how to find and effectively hunt them. The woods in Florida are thick and lack the fields that you use in the north-west to locate turkeys. Therefore, you must first be familiar with the land that you're hunting. Locate an aerial map to find creek bottoms, pines and small fields, if there are any.

Locate them. You will want to set up near these areas and first use your locator call (owl or crow) to hear for any gobbles. From there, you will move closer to where you hear a gobbler to set up your decoys. I use two hens and a jake, setting them out in any opening that I can find. You want your decoys to be seen from as far as possible. Turkeys have excellent vision during daylight hours. They can see in full color and have a very wide field of vision. Their eyesight is about three times greater than that of a human's. Therefore, you will want to move around but be careful of the open spaces and firebreaks, where they could have a chance of seeing you before you see them.

Talk turkey. You will want to utilize your turkey calls to talk back and

forth with any hens in the area, but be careful not to overcall. You also want to minimize calling the closer they get in case they see any movement.

For this specific bird, Hunter and I had planned a hunt on some private land in DeFuniak Springs. It was opening day and we hadn't had much luck that morning, so we decided to give the afternoon a try. As we were walking up to the field along the fire break, we spotted two toms in the opening of the field. They were about 150 yards ahead of us and, shockingly, they didn't see us walking up.

We slowly made our way into the tree line and set up on a tree. Hunter crawled out to the firebreak and set out a jake decoy and two hens. As he was crawling back, he noticed that the two toms had already seen the decoys and were coming our way. Within a matter of minutes, the two toms were in full strut 20 yards ahead of us. I already had my gun up and ready when the one in the front walked right in front of my barrel.

Jumping up, we saw the other tom fly back in to the field to live another day. Hunter gave me a big congratulatory hug, and we called it a day. Organic wild turkey meat was on the menu that night and for many others. This is why we do it.





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Bestselling Author Michael Finkel Shares His True Story



Interviewed by Charles Morgan III

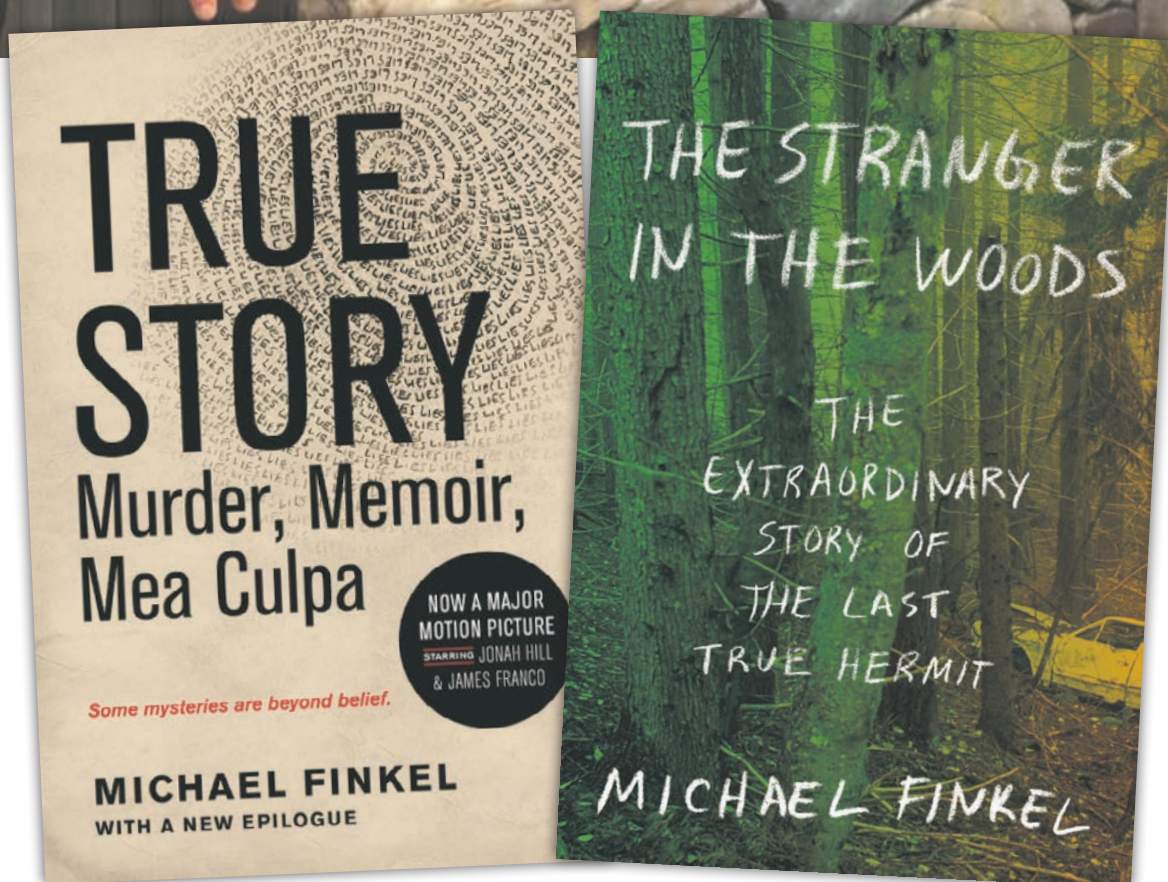
Michael Finkel is the author of True Story, and his latest book, The Stranger in the Woods, currently sits at #11 on the New York Times nonfiction bestsellers chart. He is married to Jill Barker, the sister of former Destin mayor Craig Barker.

You are a curious man—not in the sense that you have strange traits or tendencies, but in that you have an obvious insatiable curiosity about lots of things, particularly people. I think curiosity is something that great journalists have in common. Am I right?

I've been lucky my whole life. If someone asked, "What job do you want?" I'd say that I would want everybody's job for one month. I'd like to immerse myself in others' lives and then move on. This job is natural to me. Whether I'm interviewing a Nobel Prize winning scientist or a criminal in jail, I approach them exactly the same. There is nothing preconceived on my part.

You work also has an underlying sense of hopefulness. Are you an upbeat kind of guy?

In spite of how easy it is to be depressed, I remain optimistic. You have to get away from this constant barrage of negative stuff in media. I have traveled all over the world, and the percentage of bad people in this world is very low. Almost everyone I meet is kind. It doesn't matter what



nationality or religion—the people I meet are good people. I know that for a fact. Ninety-nine percent of the people in this world are kind, not scary.

How do you describe your occupation? As a writer?
Writer sounds too snobby. I like to think of myself as a journalist.

Who are your favorite novelists?
Cormac McCarthy, Ernest Hemingway, and Alice Munro for her short stories. Hemingway's simple style shows that the sum is greater than the parts.

Who are your favorite Journalists?
John McPhee, Joan Didion and Hunter Thompson.

What sort of discipline do you employ when working on a project?
I often write from 9 to 5—9 p.m. to 5 a.m. We've got three kids, and sometimes it's easier to work at night. I've been in the zone and worked for 25 to 30 hours. I've also gone for three hours without writing a word. But sometimes you get more done thinking and not writing at all.

True Story is a classic story of one door closing and another opening. You left the New York Times and fell into a bizarre story that turned out to be a bestseller and a feature film. Who came up with the title True Story—it's a great title—and what was it like seeing your story on screen?
I came up with the title. It was a little surreal to see Jonah Hill playing me in my story. I saw the film

three or four times. It was a bizarre experience.

What attracted you to the story of Christopher Knight, the Stranger in the Woods?
I saw a five-paragraph article online when he was arrested. Each paragraph increased my interest. Twenty-seven years in the woods—no fire, no food, sort of a crazy nut. The last paragraph mentioned that he stole over 1,000 books. That's when my journalistic senses went in overdrive.

I've read the book, and it's fascinating. In addition to his story, you were required to do a lot of research about the history of "hermits."
I spent three years on a 191-page book. It's a great story about an intelligent man in the woods, without human contact, for 27 years. In an age of "fake news," this is a story that is 100 percent true. Unbelievable, yet absolutely true. I even hired a staff of fact checkers. The difference in a decent book and a good book is that a good book will leave you questioning your own life. I hope it's a good book.

You've recently relocated from Bozeman, Montana to Paris. It's about time to visit the in-laws in Destin.
I love Destin. I'm happy that my kids, through Jill's family, have experienced some of the southern ethos. Respect for elders, opening doors for people...I'm glad to be a part of a southern family.



WSRE Pensacola Welcomes “Our Kids” Author Putnam



Robert Putnam is a leading expert on the topic of inequality and opportunity in America, and he is coming to Pensacola to share his ideas and solutions for diminishing the opportunity gap for today’s youth.

WSRE’s Public Square Speakers Series, in partnership with Studer Community Institute, will host a lecture by Putnam at 7 p.m. Tuesday, **April 18**, in the WSRE Jean & Paul Amos Performance Studio at Pensacola State College. Admission is FREE, and online registration is required at wsre.org/speakers.

Putnam is a public policy professor at Harvard University and a bestselling author. Among his most notable publications are *Making Democracy Work* and *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*.

His latest book, *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*, chronicles the growing gap in opportunity for American youth and offers a groundbreaking examination of why fewer Americans today have the chance for upward mobility—the chance to work hard, achieve success and live lives better than those of previous generations.

Putnam’s research looks at whether youth coming from different social and economic backgrounds have roughly equal life chances and how that has changed in recent decades—how the opportunity gap has widened and why.

His findings support the claim that the American Dream is failing and that America can address this national crisis through change that is both

bottom-up and top-down to offer more opportunity to all American children.

In *Our Kids*, Putnam says, “This is not the first time in our national history that widening socio-economic gaps have threatened our economy, our democracy and our values. The specific responses we have pursued to successfully overcome these challenges and restore opportunity have varied in detail, but underlying them all was a commitment to invest in other people’s children. And underlying that commitment was a deeper sense that those kids, too, were our kids...for America’s poor kids do belong to us and we to them.”

“Last year Dr. Dana Suskind of the University of Chicago came to Pensacola to share the story of her work in early learning. Her talk was the spark that’s focused Pensacola on building America’s First Early Learning City,” says **Quint Studer**, founder of Studer Community Institute. “WSRE is fueling that spark by hosting Dr. Putnam in our community. It’s also another example of why WSRE is a vital community resource.

“Dr. Putnam’s work and book is another important step in making sure we increase the school readiness of all of our children, an investment that research shows can lead to less crime, higher wages and a better quality of life for everyone in Pensacola.”

The Studer Community Institute is coordinating registration and providing a copy of *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* for the first 100 people who register.

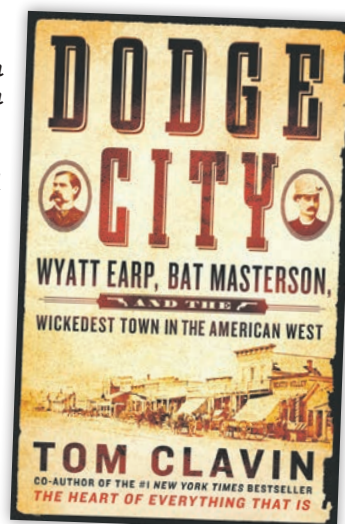
Recommended Reading

Tom Clavin

Dodge City: Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson and the Wickedest Town in the American West

St. Martin’s Press

Having recently watched HBO’s *Deadwood* series, I’d have pegged it for wickedest town in the West, but Clavin makes a good case for getting out of Dodge. This well-paced read sets out to set the record straight on its two heroes, and smash other Wild West idols along the way. Fortunately, the facts (if accurate) are just as entertaining as most of the legends. For example, I enjoyed learning that Bat Masterson was born in Canada (and never became a U.S. citizen), meaning that every election he ever won in America was invalid. And Doc Holliday was *nobody’s* huckleberry.

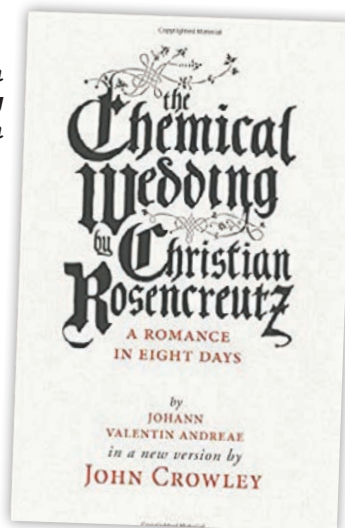


- Bruce Collier

John Crowley

The Chemical Wedding by Christian Rosencreutz: A Romance in Eight Days by Johann Valentin Andreae in a New Version
Small Beer Press

Surreal is a term usually associated with Dali or Bunuel—modern artists, part visionaries, part tricksters. Apparently, a sense of the dreamlike and often bizarre progression of humankind’s existence were well developed in the Middle Ages as well. *Chemical Wedding* is the first-person narrative of an eight-day wedding blowout for the king, during which the people invited are hazed to determine which are worthy of attending the wedding itself.



Contemporary author Crowley has created a deceptively simple version of Johann Valentin Andreae’s 700-year-old puzzler. Theo Fadel’s illustrations add to C.W.’s timeless appeal with their petrographic starkness. Beneath the Forrest Gumpian voice of the narrator—one Christian Rosencreutz—the reader senses hidden meaning. Thought by some to be an alchemical allegory, the storyline offers those who like *DaVinci Code*-type stories a firsthand chance to consider a magic realism that has as much to do with enlightenment as making gold.

- Wynn Parks

Cheech Marin with John Hassan

Cheech Is Not My Real Name...But Don’t Call Me Chong!

Hachette Book Group

Extremely enjoyable memoir from one of the first true rock stars of comedy covers all the high and low points—fleeing to Canada in the midst of the Vietnam War, teaming up (and inevitably splitting) (and reuniting) with Tommy Chong, selling shitloads of records, getting ripped off by music bizzers, *Celebrity Jeopardy!*, etc. But even if you’re a longtime fan, this book is packed with tons of things you didn’t know about Marin. The Peter Sellers episode alone makes this a must-read.



- Chris Manson

Andre Dubus III at NWF State College April 17

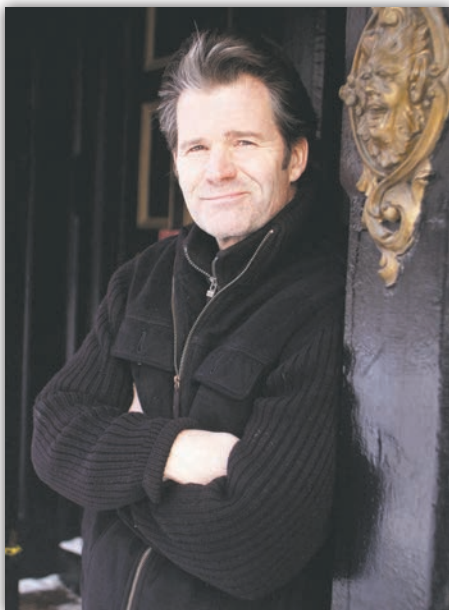
Andre Dubus III is the 2017 Guest Author appearing as part of the *NWF Reads* program at Northwest Florida State College. He will present a reading of his work Monday, **April 17**, at 7 p.m. in the Sprint Theater of the Mattie Kelly Arts Center on the Niceville Campus.

Dubus is the author of six books, including *The Cage Keeper and Other Stories*, *Bluesman*, and the *New York Times* bestsellers *House of Sand and Fog*, *The Garden of Last Days* (soon to be a major motion picture) and his memoir, *Townie*.

His work has been included in *The Best American Essays* of 1994 and *The Best Spiritual Writing* of 1999. Dubus' *House of Sand and Fog* was a finalist for the National Book Award, a number-one *New York Times* bestseller, and the source material for the Academy Award-nominated film starring Ben Kingsley and Jennifer Connelly.

Dirty Love was published in the fall of 2013 and has been listed as a *New York Times* Notable Book and Editors' Choice, a *Washington Post* Notable Fiction, and a Kirkus Starred Best Book of 2013.

The event is free of charge with no ticket required. Immediately preceding the reading by Dubus, the college's literary journal *Blackwater Review*



will be unveiled with a reception and selected student readings in the adjoining McIlroy Gallery from 6 to 6:45 p.m.

In addition, on Friday, **April 14**, other student poets and writers published in this year's *Blackwater Review* will read and perform their pieces at a casual event at 6 p.m. in the McIlroy Gallery. For more information contact *NWF Reads* director Dr. Beverly Holmes at 850-729-6032 or email holmesb@nwfsc.edu.

- Sylvia Bryan

Destin Celebrates National Library Week

April 9-15 is National Library Week, a time to highlight the changing roles of libraries, librarians and library workers. During this week, the Destin Library joins libraries in schools, college campuses, and cities nationwide to celebrate the many ways libraries are transforming communities daily through the services and invaluable expertise they offer.

The Destin Library hosts a special performance by Beachcomber Music Award winner **Cheryl Jones April 11** (see Live Music section), with an Easter egg hunt the following morning (see Events section).

"The library embraces the entire community, offering unlimited opportunities for personal growth and

lifelong learning," says library director **Jurate Burns**. "Libraries level the playing field for people of any age who are seeking information and access to technologies that will improve their quality of life."

The Destin Library offers one-on-one instruction on mobile devices and computers, along with a state-of-the-art media lab where patrons can record and edit commercials or school projects.

National Library week was first celebrated in 1958 and is sponsored by the American Library Association.

Call 850-837-8572 for additional information.

- Will Rogers

UPCOMING BOOKS

APRIL 11

Erica L. Ball and Kellie Carter Jackson, *Reconsidering Roots: Race, Politics and Memory*

Jeffery Deaver, *The Burial Hour* (Lincoln Rhyme Series)

Michael J. Knowles, *Reasons to Vote for Democrats: A Comprehensive Guide*

James Patterson with Frank Constantini, *Two from the Heart*

Lisa Scottoline, *One Perfect Lie*

Marcus Thompson, *Golden: The Miraculous Rise of Steph Curry*

Brian Windhorst and Dave McMenamin, *Return of the King: LeBron James, the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Greatest Comeback in NBA History*

APRIL 18

David Baldacci, *The Fix* (Amos Decker Series)

Michael Bloomberg and Carl Pope, *Climate of Hope: How Cities, Businesses and Citizens Can Save the Planet*

David Grann, *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*

Sara Paretsky, *Fallout: A V.I. Warshawski Novel*

Jen Sincero, *You Are a Badass at Making Money: Master the Mindset of Wealth*

Elizabeth Warren, *This Fight Is Our Fight: The Battle to Save America's Middle Class*

Stuart Woods, *Fast & Loose* (Stone Barrington Series)

Sources: www.barnesandnoble.com, www.netgalley.com

DeFrance Antiques & Flea Market

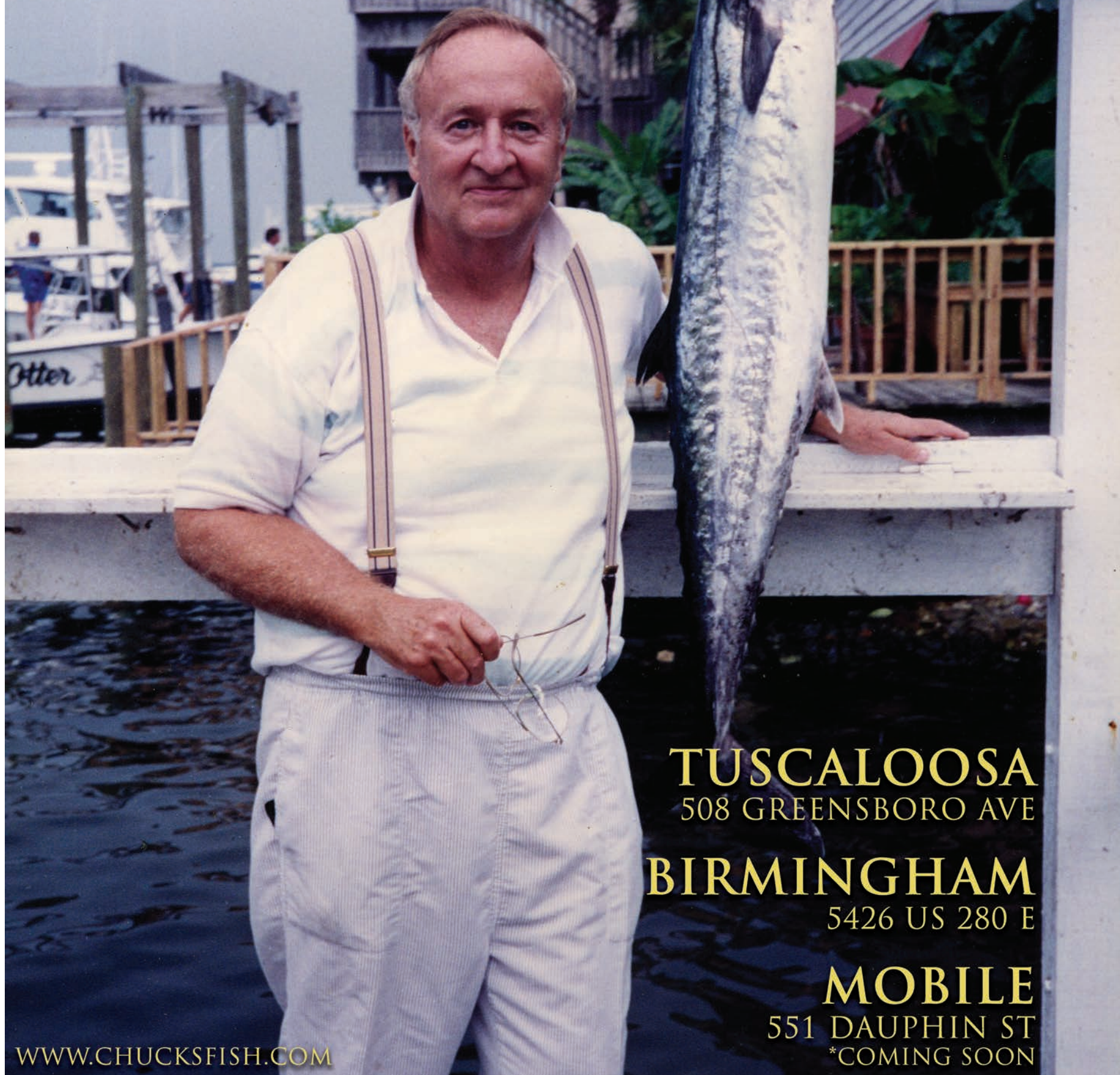
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Movies

OPENING SOON
IN THEATERS

APRIL 7

Aftermath. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Scoot McNairy.
The Case for Christ. Mike Vogel, Erika Christensen.
Colossal. Anne Hathaway, Jason Sudeikis.
Going in Style. Morgan Freeman, Michael Caine, Alan Arkin.
Smurfs: The Lost Village. Demi Lovato, Rainn Wilson.

APRIL 14

The Fate of the Furious. Vin Diesel, Dwayne Johnson.
The Lost City of Z. Charlie Hunnam, Tom Holland.
My Entire High School Sinking Into the Sea. Jason Schwartzman, Lena Dunham.
Norman: The Moderate Rise and Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer. Richard Gere.
Queen of the Desert. James Franco, Nicole Kidman.

UPCOMING DVD/
BLU-RAY/VOD
RELEASES

APRIL 11

Hidden Figures. Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monae.
Lion. Dev Patel, Nicole Kidman, Rooney Mara.

APRIL 18

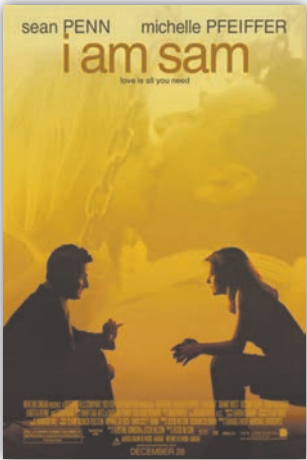
The Founder. Michael Keaton as McDonald's honcho Ray Kroc.
Split. James McAvoy takes on multiple roles. A return to form for *Sixth Sense* director M. Night Shyamalan.

Source: www.rottentomatoes.com

LOCAL FILM
SCREENINGS

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

"I AM SAM"
Destin Library, 3 p.m.
850-837-8572



The Friends Guild of the Destin Library, Inc. sponsors this FREE screening of Jessie Nelson's acclaimed drama starring Sean Penn and Michelle Pfeiffer. Sam Dawson (Penn) has the mental capacity of a seven-year-old, works at Starbucks and is obsessed with the music of the Beatles.

He has a daughter, Lucy Diamond, by a homeless woman—she abandons both Sam and Lucy as soon as they leave the hospital. Sam raises Lucy himself, but as she approaches age seven, Sam's limitations start to become a problem. At school, Lucy intentionally holds back to avoid looking smarter than her father.

Still, the authorities step in and take Lucy away, and Sam shames high-priced lawyer Rita Harrison (Pfeiffer) into taking his case pro bono. In the process, Sam teaches Rita a lot about love...and whether it really is all you need.

- Will Rogers

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NEW EARTH ARMY | CONTINUUM
PAW PAW'S MEDICINE CABINET | EL DUB
AJEVA | THE WIDE OPEN | STRANGE TANG
THE GOOD LOOKINGS (REVFEST WELCOME JAM)**

LIVE MUSIC - ARTISTS - VENDORS

MONTH	DAY	YEAR	START	END
APR	08	2017	12:00 PM	2:00 AM
DESTINATION TIME				

ADVANCED	DOOR
\$10	\$15
TICKETS	

**KIDS 12 AND
UNDER FREE**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: KC'S / 30A SONGWRITER RADIO'S MUSIC & COFFEE HOUSE
AND ONLINE AT OKALDOOSAREVFEST.COM THROUGH EVENT BRITE



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT:



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ADVANCED TICKETS GO TO OKALDOOSAREVFEST.COM

Everybody Must Get Stoked

By Kimberly White

In a place like Destin, where a family could easily drop well over \$1,000 on a single day's worth of meals and entertainment, anything offered for free is met with intrigue—and skepticism.

Such was the mindset of both myself and Johnny Crisco, the man seated beside me at a recent performance of *The Stoked Show*, which began its three-month run at HarborWalk Village's Bart Rockett Theater last month.

Whether Terry Stokes, a long-time Las Vegas entertainer and headliner of the three-man act, was actually able to get his volunteers' conscious minds to take a hike for a while and let their ids do the driving, or they were just playing to the audience, is irrelevant.

The 90-minute family-friendly show was so much fun, filled with music, comedy, laughter, a hilarious appearance from Elvis, and audience participation—yes, I was one of the guinea pigs, but more on that later—that authenticity takes a back seat to its pure entertainment value. Crisco didn't even volunteer to get up on stage, but he was so impressed that he purchased a couple souvenir videos.

"I didn't expect it to be that entertaining, but I had tears running down my face," he admitted. "The kid with the Band-Aids, the toilet seat, the 'Who's your daddy?' guy...and your x-ray vision glasses, you really told on yourself on that one."

The performance began with Paul "Stokes" Brevard singing his YouTube hit "Soldiers in Blue," an homage to law enforcement, firefighters, nurses and

EMTs, which was accompanied by a video. He later told the audience it was released in 2015, following a series of strokes he'd suffered.

"The video shows my best friend who was shot. He was a police officer," he explained later. "It is what got me 'Stoked' to do this again, so we felt it would be a good song to kick things off—that sometimes you have to get stoked in life to get things going again and not get on disability like they wanted me to."

Soon after, Stokes took to the stage and started messing with the audience, much to everyone's delight. I love it when entertainers interact with the audience, like when he told one young woman who was celebrating her birthday that she'd "wake up in your birthday suit," teasing another about her laugh (which was almost always punctuated with a snort) and when Brevard—dressed as Elvis—showered one table with pieces of toilet paper while crooning a ballad.

After several "suggestibility tests" designed to test how impressionable they are, Stokes put out the call for eight volunteers, and I found myself walking toward the stage. I briefly fantasized about being as deeply hypnotized as Ron Livingston in *Office Space*, so I could forget about how much my life sucks.

Stokes says there are a couple telltale signs that someone's under his spell, or at least relaxed, rather than just pretending. Their pulse rates slow and they exhibit rapid eye movement, an indication that his visualization and relaxation techniques are working. Only one of the volunteers, a young boy, didn't make the cut.

"Most people actually don't think they are hypnotized because they can hear," he said before that night's performance. "People think they're not supposed to be able to hear. They think 'I'm not hypnotized,' but then they realize, 'Boy, I really have an urge to do this.' You always know what's going on, but you're so relaxed that you don't care."

It's probably pretty rare for someone to be in such a deep, trance-like state that they can be made to unwittingly play peek-a-boo with a toilet seat, blow the whistle on people suspected of pooping or peeing in their pants from laughing too hard, or slapping Band-Aids on imaginary wounds—all of which happened during our time on stage.

Maybe the others really were in a deep hypnotic state; some people are more open to the power of suggestion than others. Remember Jonestown and Heaven's Gate? I'd like to believe I'm above all that, but then look at how many stupid relationships and jobs I've stayed in for that very reason.

Anyway, no one wants to be a wet blanket, and rubbing a guy's bald spot when prompted by the word "genie" is something I'd probably do anyway. But I can definitely say that during the relaxation and visualization exercises, I felt myself relax and my mind drifted off, like it does during a Yoga class or after a couple Bourbon and Cokes.

"You get hypnotized every day of your life," Stokes said during our pre-show talk. "Have you ever been



Paul "Stokes" Brevard

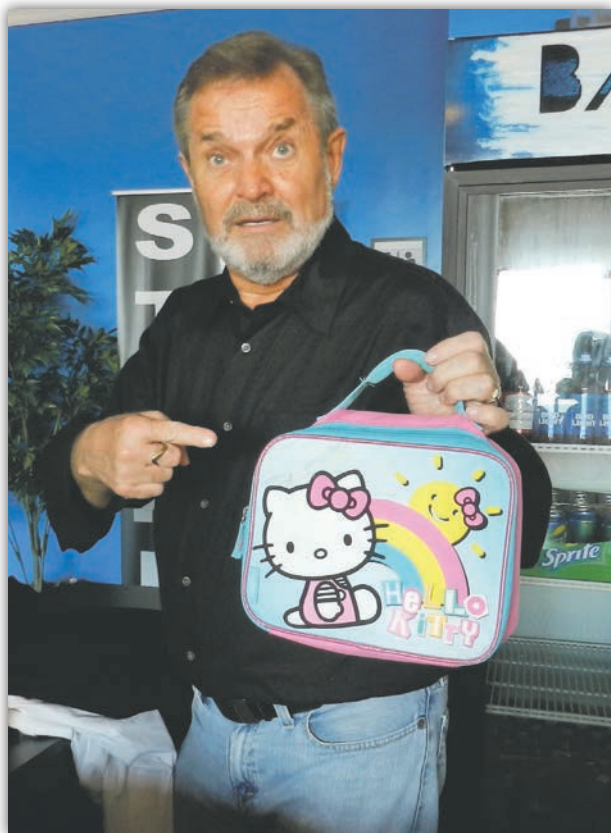
watching television, really involved in the program, and someone walks in the room and asks you a question? You answer the question but a few minutes later when the show's over, you say, 'Did you say something to me?'

"Some people call that marriage, but if you think about it, part of your mind heard a question, analyzed the question, thought up an answer, delivered the answer, and you don't ever remember doing it," he continued. "You do it when you're driving down the road, and suddenly realize your exit was five miles back. In fact, that's even called 'road hypnosis.'"

Did our subconscious minds really emerge from the depths during those 45 minutes? Were some of us just playing the part for the benefit of the audience? Or could it have been, as logic would suggest, that anyone who volunteers to get up in front of a room full of strangers and subject themselves to the whim of a Las Vegas showman is a little uninhibited to begin with and therefore more willing to act stupid for the greater good?

As far as I'm concerned, it doesn't matter. Stokes says the show is doing better than expected, and they're getting a lot of repeat business. After seeing it for myself, I'm not surprised.

The Stoked Show runs Wednesday through Saturdays through **May 28**. Snacks and drinks—including beer and wine—are available for purchase. And while admission is free, it's a cold, cold heart that doesn't tip at the end of the show to reward a job well done. These guys really pour their hearts and souls into each performance.



Terry Stokes

Stage > Upcoming Shows

THURSDAY, APRIL 6
AWKWARD OXEN IMPROV HOUR
Fonville Press, Alys Beach, 10 a.m.
LoveTheREP.com
A FREE, fun and interactive comedy show for all ages.

DUSTY SLAY’S SON OF A DITCH STANDUP COMEDY SHOW
The REP Theatre, Seaside, 9 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
Award-winning comic Slay is joined by longtime collaborators **Evan Berke** and **Jordan Jensen**. Tickets are \$10.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE SOUNDSATIONS SHOW CHOIR
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30-9 p.m.
MattieKellyArtsCenter.org
An energetic song and dance extravaganza. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for ages 18 and under, and FREE for NWF State College students (with ID). Purchase online, at the box office, or call 850-729-6000.

“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com
Hypnotic comedy with the legendary **Terry Stokes**, plus singer **Paul Brevard** and guest hypnotist **Terry Stokes Jr.** The 90-minute performance is an interactive audience participation show—you can be a hypnotic subject or participate in ESP and mentalism experiments. FREE—or you pick the ticket price. Gratuities appreciated. More in this issue’s feature story.

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7
CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA PRESENTS “BLITHE SPIRIT”
CHS Auditorium, Fort Walton Beach, 7 p.m.
Noel Coward’s classic play. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students at the door.

“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

“THE VELVETEEN RABBIT”
Emerald Coast Theatre Company, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 10 a.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
A theatrical educational experience designed specifically for the children of our community. All the classic characters come to life in this heartwarming production.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8
CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA PRESENTS “BLITHE SPIRIT”
CHS Auditorium, Fort Walton Beach, 7 p.m.
Noel Coward’s classic play. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students at the door.

“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

“THE VELVETEEN RABBIT”
Emerald Coast Theatre Company, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9:30 a.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

SUNDAY, APRIL 9
CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA PRESENTS “BLITHE SPIRIT”
CHS Auditorium, Fort Walton Beach, 2 p.m.
Noel Coward’s classic play. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students at the door.

“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

MONDAY, APRIL 10
ADVENTURES IN ALYS
Fonville Press, Alys Beach, 10 a.m.

LoveTheREP.com
A FREE, completely original storytelling experience from the REP Theatre.

BLOODSHOT COMEDY SHOW
Green Door Music Hall, Fort Walton Beach, 7 p.m.
Host **Mark LaBarge** welcomes headliner **Darrell Rollo**, along with **Kyle Smith** and **Devin Howard**. Open mic follows. Cover is \$5.

“PINOCCHIO”
Seaside Amphitheater, 6 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP presents an updated, fast-paced version of the classic tale of a puppet’s journey to becoming a real boy. Filled with delightful and unsavory characters! FREE.

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11
STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12
ADVENTURES IN ALYS
Fonville Press, Alys Beach, 10 a.m.
LoveTheREP.com
A FREE, completely original storytelling experience from the REP Theatre.

“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

“THE TALES OF KING ARTHUR”
North Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach, 6 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
Join King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table for a sword and sorcery comedy adventure. FREE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13
“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14
“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com

The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

“THE VELVETEEN RABBIT”
Emerald Coast Theatre Company, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 10 a.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 15
ACT4MURDER’S “MUSCLING IN ON MURDER”
Samuel’s Roadhouse, Crestview, 6-9 p.m.
Act4Murder.com
Paula Hilton and her award-winning troupe unveil a new contraption called “The Bycle Cycle.” Plus, someone is going to die! Cost for the show and three-course meal is \$38—tax and gratuity included. Call 850-862-2885 for more info.

“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

“THE VELVETEEN RABBIT”
Emerald Coast Theatre Company, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9:30 a.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

SUNDAY, APRIL 16
“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

MONDAY, APRIL 17
“PINOCCHIO”
Seaside Amphitheater, 6 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP presents an updated, fast-paced version of the classic tale of a puppet’s journey to becoming a real boy. Filled with delightful and unsavory characters! FREE.

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18
STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
FORT WALTON BEACH HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS “INTO THE WOODS”
FWBHS Auditorium, Fort Walton Beach, 7 p.m.
850-833-3300
James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim’s celebrated musical. Get your tickets at the school office. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Email **whittakerc@mail.okaloosa.k12.fl.us** for more info.

“STOKED: A MUSICAL COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW”
Bart Rockett Theater, HarborWalk Village, 8 p.m.
TheSTOKEDShow.com

STORIES BY THE SEA
Seaside, 3:30 p.m.
LoveTheREP.com
The REP actors present a FREE, one-of-a-kind storytelling experience for children of all ages.


TED
RADIO
HOUR

An idea is the one gift that you can hang onto even after you’ve given it away. *TED Radio Hour*, hosted by Guy Raz, is a co-production of NPR and TED. It’s a journey through fascinating ideas, astonishing inventions, fresh approaches to old problems, and new ways to think and create.

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Photo: Marla Aufmuth/TED



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SHARE YOUR PHOTOS AND GET FEATURED!
[instagram.com/beachcomberdestin](https://www.instagram.com/beachcomberdestin)

Happy Anniversary, Nonie!



On Saturday, **April 8**, our longtime friend Nonie from Nonie's Ark Animal Encounters celebrates her "EDUtainment" endeavor's 20th anniversary, as well as her own birthday.

The event is set for 5-8 p.m. at the Fort Walton Beach Dog Park, located at 318 Miracle Strip Parkway SW.

Nonie has billed the celebration as BYOP (Bring Your Own Pet) "dressed like my animals, and we can have a parade!" And we can only imagine what else the evening has in store for us.



Camille's
Destin, FL

Gulf Seafood | Pizza | Steaks | Cocktails | Award Winning Sushi
On the corner of Scenic Highway 98 and Hutchinson Street in Crystal Beach | 850-337-8860 | www.camillesatcrystalbeach.com



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Pho Eva – A Little of All Things Vietnamese

Military towns like Fort Walton Beach are generally a sure bet for finding good Thai, Vietnamese, Korean and other hybrid “Asian” restaurants. I have yet to meet a G.I. who didn’t love some kind of Asian food, and who didn’t have strong opinions about what is or is not authentic.

Though there are similarities among all the cuisines of the Far East, there are also differences. Maybe the biggest thing that sets the Vietnamese kitchen apart from those of its neighbors is the French colonial influence, meaning that Gallic staples like butter, pate, bread, and wine can be seen on many Vietnamese restaurant menus. And then there’s the banh mi, a French-inspired deli sandwich served on a baguette with mayo, butter and assorted meats and charcuterie.

But, as its name implies, **Pho Eva** takes great pride in serving pho, a beef stock soup in which are simmered various cuts—flank steak, brisket, round, meatballs, tripe and even tendons, with noodles. Seafood and chicken are variations, and there’s a vegetarian version, but beef is the “soul” of pho. Served with pho is a plate of fresh herbs, bean sprouts, hot peppers and onions, for the diner to add to taste. On the table are jars of chili sauce and bottles of fish sauce, sriracha, and hoisin for further customization. Pho is easily adapted for sharing, with diners dipping stock from a common bowl into smaller serving bowls for individual seasoning.

My schedule required me to dine at Pho Eva on a weekday, minus both my wife and our six-year-old Grace (the Tiny Diner). The menu is the same all day, and takeout is available.

The exterior of the restaurant is pretty unobtrusive, but inside it’s clear that both thought and taste went into the decor. There are booths and tables, with modern-style chairs, and a sleek, black-silver-white color scheme. I was there for lunch, but I could see this being a good place for an evening out. Servers are polite and efficient, and can answer your questions.

My plan was to eat in, and get takeout. The menu offers appetizers, salads, rice chowder, sandwiches, pho, egg noodle soup, broken rice and noodle dishes, and stir-fry noodles.

There are 18 apps, half of them rolls. I ordered fresh summer rolls, grilled chicken rolls, and fried Vietnamese pork spring rolls. The fresh rolls, served at room temperature, are wrapped in moistened rice paper, which is slightly chewy. Mine were stuffed with cooked shrimp, sliced pork, avocado, lettuce, mint, herbs and rice vermicelli noodles. You eat them out of hand, with a sweet peanut dipping sauce.

The grilled chicken rolls are similar, only filled with strips of savory chicken and served with a sweet chili sauce. The fried Vietnamese rolls are filled with ground pork, mushrooms and

vegetables, with a fish sauce dip.

Other apps are pork, beef, chicken or vegetable rolls, wings, teriyaki, spare ribs, crab rangoon, dumplings, fried shrimp, chicken fingers and pork and shrimp pancakes. All are great snacks, or could make a meal.

I had to order pho, and the “Pho Eva” seemed the logical choice. I ordered a “medium” bowl, and thought they’d made a mistake and brought me the large. It’s big. In the stock are noodles, flank steak, brisket, meatballs, tripe, tendon and round, all of them pull-apart tender (the tripe had the consistency of cooked squid).

The broth was already basil-fragrant, but I ramped it up with more herbs, chili sauce, lime juice and jalapenos. If you like it sweet, add hoisin. I ate every bite, and drank the rest with no shame (like everyone else).

I tried the broken rice with grilled beef, shredded pork, an omelet-like egg loaf, onions and vegetables. It was mild, but loaded with flavor.

Other menu items included pho with chicken, seafood, vegetables, spicy beef, and a beef stew. Egg noodle soups came with barbecue pork, seafood, chicken, vegetables and in combinations. There are dinner salads with shrimp, chicken or pork and the banh mi comes with pork, bologna, ham, turkey, beef, chicken or vegetables.

The vermicelli noodles and “broken” rice (fragmented in processing) can be ordered with pretty much any protein in the house. There’s also fried rice, steamed chicken, and crispy roast duck (limited availability, takes 25 minutes to prepare).

There’s no dessert menu as such, but Thai iced coffee or tea makes a good after-dinner sweet, and there’s a list of smoothies incorporating avocado, jackfruit, durian, sour sop, taro and more mainstream fruits as well.



**PHO EVA
VIETNAMESE
RESTAURANT**
648 Beal Parkway NW
Fort Walton Beach
850-200-4026

Hours: Open Daily, 10 a.m.-
9 p.m.

Reservations: Yes

Children's Menu: Can
Accommodate

Dress: Casual

There’s a little of all things Vietnamese on the menu at Pho Eva, from pho to broken rice, served in a tasteful and friendly atmosphere. Start with one of the nine kinds of rolls, move on to a French-inspired banh mi sandwich, and share a savory bowl of pho with your choice of meat or seafood. There are also salads and an assortment of rice and noodle entrees. \$4-35.

Restaurant Guide

If your favorite restaurant isn't listed here, let us know by dropping an email to us at chris@beachcomberdestin.com!

AMERICAN

CALLAHAN'S A long-time favorite of Destin locals, Callahan's Restaurant & Deli lives up to its name, offering one of the town's most varied selections of deli sandwiches, salads, and full-on meals, with everything from quiche to barbecue. Steaks and chops are a perennial favorite, along with comforting meals of pot roast, prime rib, seafood platters, and some fancier regular and special items. Lunch and dinner; beer, wine and mixed drinks, \$3-20. 791 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-6328/837-7171. www.callahansdestin.com. www.facebook.com/callahansdestin.

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Destin's first true burger bar has it all - Burgers, Bourbon and Beer! Charlie's has a selection of 17 different burgers from lamb, Black Angus, wild boar, bison, even Ostrich. If you don't want one of the already built burgers, make your own. Select the bun you would like, than the protein, pick your cheese and your sides. The soon to be famous deep fried pickles are to die for. Or live a little and go for Charlie's Funky Fries topped with different types of cheeses. Happy hour daily from 3-6 p.m. Open at 3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. \$3-32, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex, 850-424-7695. www.CharliesBurgerBar.com.

HOOTERS Wings, shrimp, burgers and more. Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.-Thu., 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Fri. and Sat. Happy hour Mon.-Fri., 3-6 p.m. and 9 p.m.-close. 15015 Emerald Coast Parkway, Destin, 850-654-1007. hootersonline.com.

ASIAN

LIN'S ASIAN CUISINE Enjoy carefully prepared and artfully served Chinese and Southeast Asian dishes in a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere. Chicken, beef, pork, duck, fish and shellfish are cooked to suit most tastes, and Lin's offers your favorites—General Tso's chicken, Mongolian beef, pad thai, lo mein and kung pao, among many others. Beer and wine. \$2-15. 130 Scenic Gulf Dr. #5B, Miramar Beach, 850-424-5888.

BARBEQUE

LILLIE'S Q Award-winning on the national level barbecue restaurant located at 9848 Hwy. 98 W., Miramar Beach, approximately seven miles east of the Mid Bay Bridge. We offer barbecue that represents all areas of the U.S., such as pulled pork, baby back ribs, smoked chicken breast and beef tri-tip (sliced sirloin). All meat products are slow smoked using natural wood and lump charcoal. Seven sauce choices with delicious side orders and the best banana pudding in the Panhandle. We offer a wrap around porch. No inside seating. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Call ahead orders welcomed! 850-654-3911.

BREAKFAST & MORE

ANOTHER BROKEN EGG CAFÉ is the Emerald Coast's premier breakfast, brunch and lunch destination. Sip on one of our award-winning, house infused Bloody Marys while you dine on breakfast classics, memorable brunch dishes or lunchtime favorites. Grand Boulevard – 755 Grand Boulevard, Suite B-107, Miramar Beach, 850-424-3416. Sandestin – 9100 Baytowne Wharf Boulevard, Suite A-4, 850-622-2050. www.anotherbrokenegg.com.

ASIAGO'S SKILLET There's no place like it. Open daily from midnight till noon. Try your hand at our one-of-a-kind Crab Cake Benny, mouth watering Bananas Foster French Toast or our classic American Breakfast. We've got something for

everyone. Plus, don't miss out on our Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar, complete with infused vodkas, every weekend. Truly breakfast at its best. 110 Amberjack Drive, Okaloosa Island, 850-586-7998. New location in Destin! 300 Harbor Blvd., 850-424-4160. www.facebook.com/asiago.skillet.

BLUE COLLAR CAFE Made to order breakfast and lunch served all day. House made bagels. Full coffee bar with Maas coffee and espresso roasted at the cafe. Home of the famous BOB (breakfast on a bagel) and New York style lox and house-mixed cream cheese. Salads and sides, homemade scones and sweets. Open Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 104 Hollywood Blvd. SW, Fort Walton Beach.

CAMILLE'S CAFE Start your day with coffee and breakfast. We feature fluffy eggs, cinnamon rolls, apple pie muffins, fresh juice and smoothies. For lunch, enjoy our fresh caught tuna salad on an Asiago cheese bagel, Sriracha turkey sandwich or Mediterranean chicken salad sandwich. Plus all day Bloody Marys, mimosas, beer, and daiquiris made with fresh-squeezed juice. Join our party! 2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin, 850-337-8860.

THE DONUT HOLE Breakfast, donuts, sandwiches, salads, burgers and more. 635 U.S. 98 E, Destin, 850-837-8824.

THE DONUT HOLE 6745 U.S. 98 W, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-3239.

THE DONUT HOLE 12983 U.S. 98 E, Inlet Beach, 850-213-3127.

THE LOCAL MARKET Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m. daily. Fresh pressed juices, coffee, breakfast, gourmet sandwiches, homemade ice cream and more. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-460-8979.

THE PANCAKERY Serving breakfast and lunch daily from 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. Featuring build your own pancakes and omelettes! Waffles, French Toast, crepes, benedicts, bananas foster and all traditional breakfast items. Also, lunch menu includes sandwiches, burgers, salads, wraps, and loaded potatoes. Now serving bloody marys, mimosas and cold beer. 960 Hwy 98 East, Suite 104, Destin. 850-269-0791.

TOMMY MATTONIE'S Looking for upscale breakfast options? We offer 13 different Eggs Benedicts and numerous specialty waffles. Trip Advisor honored us with a Certificate of Excellence for 2015. Our list of New Orleans style po-boys for lunch is just as extensive as the Eggs Benedict selections. We serve only local fresh bay shrimp and offer some of the best slow smoked BBQ in FWB. We also serve salads, Floribbean tacos, soups and daily specials. Check Facebook for our daily specials. Open 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day except Mondays. Located at 723 Eglin Parkway NE in FWB near the Shalimar Bridge. 850-862-0895. www.tommymattonies.com.

BURGERS

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Burgers, bourbon and beer. Pick from 18 burgers or build your own. Over 50 beers and bourbons, funky French fries, milk shakes for all ages. Located at 2 Harbor Blvd. in HarborWalk Village's Crab Island Cantina Complex, Destin, 850-424-7695.

CASUAL DINING

FUDPUCKER'S BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL – DESTIN Find out why Fudpucker's is #1 for Food and Fun. Fud's has offered great food,

live alligators and world famous t-shirts in a fun filled family atmosphere since 1982. Family entertainment is offered nightly with **The Fudnominals** interactive dance team, and Teen Night is held every Thursday and Friday. Download the Fud app for daily deals on food, drinks and merchandise. 20001 Emerald Coast Parkway, across from Henderson Beach State Park. Call 850-654-4200 or visit us at www.fudpucker.com.

HOG'S BREATH CAFE A local favorite located in the heart of Destin, Hog's Breath offers a varied menu selection, from seafood tacos to BBQ platters. Sit inside or enjoy the beautiful Emerald Coast weather, all while listening to live local entertainment. Fun for the entire family. Open daily, 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. 541 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-5991. "Hog's Breath is better than no breath at all!" www.hogsbreath.com/destin.

CATERING

BIG RED TRUCK Specializing in private events and full service catering. 850-737-1185. www.destinfoodtrucks.com.

COFFEE SHOPS

MAAS COFFEE ROASTERS Fresh roasted beans of origin, roasted in different profiles. Specialty coffee roasters for 10 years. "Once you go Maas, you'll never go 'Bucks!" Fresh made pastries and bagels, FREE WiFi. Open Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 150 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, across from the Indian Temple Mound Museum. 850-585-0496.

CONTEMPORARY

BUD & ALLEY'S This Seaside perennial just keeps getting better. Lunch and dinner daily, with a varying menu offering grilled, roasted, and sautéed fish and shellfish, quail, chicken, pork, and plenty of interesting accompaniments. Full bar, \$4-34. 2236 CR30A East, Seaside, 850-231-5900.

LOUIS LOUIS Louis Louis is another dining hit. This "sister" restaurant to the famous Red Bar offers a short but all-star menu of fish, chicken, pork, crab cakes and pasta entrees, served in fat portions by a friendly staff. Do whatever you have to do, but don't skip dessert. Colorful décor, comfy tables, full bar, \$5-25. 35 Mussett Bayou Rd., Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-1500.

ECLECTIC

CAFÉ THIRTY-A Cafe Thirty-A has been here a while. Finding out why can be a delicious experience. A nightly-changing menu offers steaks, chicken, pork, lamb, and local seafood elegantly prepared with imaginative sauces and sides, courteously served in a beautiful beach-house atmosphere. Lobster bisque, stone crab claws, seasonal fish and shellfish, and wood oven-baked pizzas. Full bar. \$8-36. 3899 E. Scenic Highway 30-A, Seagrove Beach, 850-231-2166.

THE RED BAR The place to go—and say you went—in Grayton Beach. The Red Bar offers breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a short but expertly prepared menu of sandwiches, soup and salads for lunch, chicken, local fish, pasta and crab cakes for dinner. The apple dumpling will haunt you, in a good way. Live music, and more local color than you'll know what to do with. Full bar, \$4-21. 70 Hotz Avenue, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008. www.theredbar.com.

VIN'TIJ Wine boutique and bistro. Wonderful food, service and a.m.sphere. Great approach to wine service offering Flight or tasters of unique varietals. Open daily for lunch or dinner plus a well stocked retail wine shop. \$5-19, 10859 Emerald Coast Pkwy, Destin, 650-9820.

FOOD TRUCKS

BIG RED TRUCK Gulf to table certified seafood, fresh fish tacos, high end comfort food on the move. We specialize in private events and full service catering. Daily specials and locations on Facebook. 850-737-1185. www.destinfoodtrucks.com.

GERMAN/AMERICAN

FOKKERS PUB German sausages and homemade schnitzels go great with German beer! Brick oven pizza, grilled or fried wings, burgers, sandwiches and salad bar – there's something for everyone! Live music Wednesdays and Fridays. Located at 215 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Unit #1 in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-6666.

HEALTHY DINING

GEORGE'S AT ALYS BEACH Established in 2008, George's has offered regional coastal fare infused with global flavors to the quaint town of Alys Beach. We craft all of our dishes using locally sourced organic produce and the freshest seafood available, and present each with a generous helping of love. Our dishes fall into two categories—Behave and Misbehave. The Behave section features organic, spa-inspired dishes, while the Misbehave side touts traditional beach fare like fried seafood baskets and po-boys. The menu is rounded out with a thoughtfully curated wine list and a selection of decadent desserts. Our charming beach cottage provides the perfect backdrop for a casual dinner with friends and family. Dine indoors in our airy yet cozy dining room, or soak in the beautiful Florida sunshine on our front deck or screened porches. Open 11 a.-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. 30 Castle Harbour Dr., Panama City Beach, 850-641-0017, georgesatallysbeach.net.

IRISH

JOHNNY MCTIGHE'S Ireland on Scenic 30-A, a unique outpost of food and drink in Santa Rosa Beach. McTighe's opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 2 a.m. the next day. In between, the all-day menu offers an Irish grand slam of a breakfast, fish and chips, wings, pizza, and an array of hearty sandwiches, including Irish reuben, Philly cheese steak, burgers, chicken and hot dogs. There's even Maine lobster bisque. Full bar, \$4 - 21. 2298 Scenic Highway 30-A West, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-0101. www.johnnymctighesirishpub.com.

ITALIAN

TUSCANY ITALIAN BISTRO Authentic Italian cuisine includes pasta, freshest seafood, tender veal and more. A true taste of Italy--beautiful Italian decor with handpainted murals. Live Entertainment by Eclipse (Don and Amanda), Special Happy Hour from 5 to 8 p.m. 36178 Emerald Coast Pkwy. Next to City Market in Destin. 850-650-2451.

LATIN / MEXICAN

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great

Restaurant Guide

selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, \$4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. www.CrabIslandCantina.com.

LA COCINA MEXICAN GRILL & BAR Since 2009, La Cocina has served traditional Tex-Mex fare with a coastal twist in a fun, festive atmosphere. We prepare all of our dishes from scratch using the freshest ingredients available. La Cocina is nestled between Rosemary Beach and Alys Beach in Seacrest Beach. Menu highlights include Tacos de Camerones with grilled shrimp, shredded lettuce, habanero pickled onions and feta cheese; the Pollo Fundido with shredded chicken and sour cream (chimichanga style) topped with cheese; and the Lobster Quesadilla with lobster, crab, shrimp and cheese topped with chipotle aioli and fruit salsa. Saturdays and Sundays, enjoy \$7 specialty cocktails during football season. Open 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. 10343 East CR-30A, Panama City Beach, 850-231-4021, lacocina30a.net.

LA PAZ offers just about anything you'd want from a Mexican-Southwestern kitchen, including tamales, tacos, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas and quesadillas, plus a thoughtfully prepared list of grilled local fish and shellfish and imaginative spins on classics. Daily dinner specials, full bar. \$15-25. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-837-2247. www.lapazdestin.com.

PEPITO'S MEXICAN GRILL An enormous menu, plenty of room, and a friendly staff make Pepito's a good bet for a Mexican snack or feast. Traditional and unusual fare includes carnitas, enchiladas, fajitas, vegetarian dishes, steaks and seafood specialties. \$4-19. 757 Harbor Blvd, Destin, 650-7734. Additional locations in Bluewater Bay and Fort Walton Beach. www.mypepitos.com.

PIZZA & PASTA

CRUST PIZZERIA We strive to make the very best pizza. We make our own dough and sauce and grate the finest whole milk mozzarella. We make our own meatballs, slice the Italian sweet sausages, chop the fresh vegetables, then assemble your pizza just for you and bake it to perfection in a brick oven. Eat-in, takeout and delivery. Wine and craft beers. Open Mon.-Sat., 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sundays, 4-10 p.m. 104 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-2990. destincrustpizzeria.com.

CRUST PIZZERIA Pizza, calzones, pasta, salads, desserts and more made fresh. Wine and craft beers. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 433 Page Bacon Rd., Mary Esther, 850-737-2121.

CRUST PIZZERIA Pizza, calzones, pasta, salads, desserts and more made fresh. Wine and craft beers. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 1826 Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, 850-737-2299.

LANDSHARK'S PIZZA Daily happy hour, 3-6 p.m. and full liquor bar plus award-winning pizza and wings. 360 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-6743. www.LandsharksPizza.com.

MELLOW MUSHROOM PIZZA BAKERY Widely, wildly assorted menu of stone baked pizzas, hoagies, calzones, salads, and specialty items. Pizzas traditional and exotic include pesto, jerk chicken, gourmet white, and Magical Mystery Tour. Colorful psychedelic décor and friendly service. \$4-25. 960 Hwy 98E, Sunsatons Plaza, Destin, 650-6420.

REDBRICK PIZZA Fresh fire-roasted pizzas, fhazani sandwiches and gourmet Italian gelato ice cream. We use only Qualita superior Italian cheeses and premium ingredients. Savor the passion of a century-old Italian tradition. Locations are Destin Commons next to Rave Motion Pictures, 850-424-5990; and Pier Park, Panama City Beach, 850-236-1413. Hours are Sun.-Thurs., 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri. and Sat., 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

SEAFOOD

THE BACK PORCH Experience open air dining with the best view of the Gulf of Mexico. Serving grouper, oysters, fried crab claws and our famous char-grilled amberjack. Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 a.m. 1740 Old Highway 98 East, Destin. On U.S. 98 across from the Track, turn at the Hampton Inn, drive about 1/4 mile, and you'll find us on the right side. www.theback-porch.com. 850-837-2022.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF A tradition since 1977, Capt. Dave's is a go-to place for the kind of seafood that made this area famous. A time-tested selection of fried, grilled, and broiled fish, shellfish, steaks and chicken, with house and seasonal specialties. Full bar. \$5-25. 3796 Scenic Hwy 98, Destin, 850-837-2627.

GRANDE VISTA BAR & GRILL Located in the Emerald Grande. Open daily 7 a.m.-9 p.m. for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Grande Vista Bar & Grill has delicious local seafood, signature sandwiches and mouth-watering burgers. Enjoy casual or business lunch inside or poolside overlooking the Destin Harbor. Enjoy special drink prices inside or outside at our poolside bar. The view from our pool deck is simply breathtaking. Half-priced drinks daily, 4-6 p.m. 10 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8100 x1550. info@emeraldgrande.com.

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own market since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area's best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. harbordocks.com.

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE Located in HarborWalk Village right on the beautiful Destin Harbor, Harry T's has something for all ages! With entrees ranging from fresh local seafood to our gourmet hamburgers, there's something for everyone! Voted Best Place to Watch the Sunset four years in a row, our outside deck offers an unparalleled view of the Destin Harbor. Mega Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. 46 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-654-4800. info@harryts.co.

LOCAL CATCH has established itself as a Hot Spot for fresh coastal cuisine with superior customer service. Dine in daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and enjoy Happy Hour Mon.-Fri., 3-5 p.m. Join us every Sunday for live music from 3 to 7 p.m. 3711 West Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-2022. www.localcatch30a.com.

OLD BAY STEAMER Wide variety of fresh steamed seafood served in every imaginable combination. Choose from crab, shrimp, lobster, oysters, clams, mussels, and fresh catch of the day. Pasta and steak/seafood pairings also offered. Friendly, efficient service. Open daily for dinner, with full bar. \$4-27, 102 Santa Rosa Blvd., Okaloosa Island, 664-2795.

Bartender of the Issue



Photo by James Murray II.

Megan Cooper

Solaris Yacht, Miramar Beach

When you are sailing the salty sea on a vast vessel like the 125-foot Solaris Yacht, moored at the Baytowne Marina at Sandestin, you want a heavyweight who can handle sailors, a motley crew and precocious pirates who may belly up to the bar. The Solaris has Megan Cooper, who goes by "Cooper."

With certification from the ABC School of Libations, you don't want to challenge what this 26-year-old Crestview mixologist can sling on the rocks. From her sushi-inspired Cocomoso—an infusion of coconut sake and brut Champagne to Hot Blooded—a ruthless blend of Jameson Irish Whiskey, muddled with fresh jalapeno topped with fresh blood orange juice—Cooper figures she's got at least a couple hundred creative cocktails filed away in her cranium.

Okay, we'll spill it. The Solaris isn't full of wayward pirates and crusty Old Men in the Sea types, it's a lovely, upscale luxury yacht that is the go-to alternative venue for holiday celebrations, memorable special occasions and weddings on the Emerald Coast. Still, we wouldn't want to corner Cooper. If she can tame cocktailing at sea, she's got skills in our book...or captain's log, as the case may be.

"You definitely have to have your bearings about you," Cooper says of bartending aboard a boat. "You will be rocking and rolling, so you have to be comfortable with the sea. If I move, my shaker moves with me. I try to have fun with it and have a laugh."

With seven years in the food and beverage industry—three of those on the Solaris as the beverage director and events coordinator—Cooper has plenty of experience, but her secret ingredient may just be her charm. Approachable with personality, plus she can coax nearly any barfly into trying a new concoction.

"I just talk to them and get a feel for who they are," she says. "If they like Old Fashioneds, I might say, 'Try a French 75, it's got an old-fashioned feel.'"

Aboard the Solaris, the cocktails practically sell themselves. The fellas are hot for the spice in the Hot Blooded, but Cooper says the ladies are partial to the "light and bright" flavors in the Citrus Sunset, a mix of orange vodka, coconut rum, cranberry juice and a splash of pineapple juice.

If you want to charm a delicious precision cocktail from Cooper aboard the sexy Solaris, that's easily done. Just "be polite, have manners and always order another one."

- Zandra Wolfram

FUN FOOD MUSIC



Lucy Buffett's



Destin, Florida

Bayfront Dining



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- 🌀 Boat-in Shuttle Available
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Easter Egg Hunt

Coming to the
Lulu's Destin Beach
Easter Sunday

April 16th, 2017 • 2pm

Open Daily 11am

4607 Legendary Marina Drive 🌀 Destin, FL

850-710-LULU (5858)



www.LuLuBuffett.com

Restaurant Guide

ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK

Located on the water. The Crab Shack serves crab, shrimp, oysters, mussels, scallops and assorted local fish in an informal and family-friendly atmosphere. Crab steamer buckets, fried seafood baskets, sandwiches and po-boys, and some land-based items. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Daily specials, inside and outside dining. Full bar. \$3-45. 104 Miracle Strip Pkwy., Fort Walton Beach. 850-664-0345.

POMPANO JOE'S

Come on in for some fun and fresh seafood with a very exciting flavor. Try our famous reggae rolls and our garlic crusted grouper! Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 a.m. 2237 Scenic Gulf Highway, Destin. Take Holiday Road South, turn right on scenic Hwy. 98, drive down about two blocks, and you'll find us on the left side. www.pompano-joes.com. 850-837-2224.

SALTWATER GRILL

We provide a relaxing, casual atmosphere designed to heighten the enjoyment of our customers' dining experience. Most of our tables have entertaining views of a 25,000-gallon aquarium filled with exotic fish. Become mesmerized by the soothing sounds of **Michael Rorah**, our singing pianist, who plays Tuesday through Saturday evenings. Lobsters available for viewing and choosing at the front of the restaurant. Open 4-10 p.m. 1100 Hutchinson Blvd., Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739, saltwatergrillpcb.com.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP

Seafood is king at this informal Santa Rosa Beach eatery. Oysters "all ways," crawfish pie, catfish or frog legs meuniere, and gumbo are just a few of the Louisiana-inspired dishes. Service is friendly and attentive. Open daily 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Serving brunch on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Beer, wine and live music at Stinky's Bait Shack from 6 to 9 p.m. 5960 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-3053.

STEAKS

MCGUIRE'S IRISH PUB OF DESTIN

One of America's Great Steak Houses. Feasting, Imbibery and Debauchery. We are known for great food, exceptional service, our own craft brewed beers, and fun live entertainment. Open LATE, from 11 a.m. to 1:45 a.m. seven days a week. 33 U.S. 98, Destin, 850-650-0000, www.mcguiresirishpub.com.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE

serves the finest aged, corn-fed USDA Prime beef. Broiled in a trademark 1,800° broiler and served on a plate heated to 500 degrees, your steak is presented sizzling hot at your table. Happy hour daily from 5 to 7 p.m. in any of our three bars, including the new East Bar. We boast an array of private event spaces, our own private billiard room, valet parking, and live entertainment five nights a week from *Billboard*-charting recording artist Michael J Thomas (upon availability). Open seven days a week at 5 p.m. For reservations, call 850-837-RUTH (7884) or visit www.RuthsChrisDestin.com.

SALTWATER GRILL

Open 4-10 p.m. 1100 Hutchinson Blvd., Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739, saltwatergrillpcb.com.

SEAGAR'S PRIME STEAKS & SEAFOOD

The area's first AAA 4-Diamond restaurant specializing in the finest prime beef and freshest seafood available. Private dining facilities and wine room with more than 800 labels. Features tableside preparations and live piano nightly. Reservations recommended. 622-1500. \$10-50, 4000 Sandestin Blvd., at the Hilton Sandestin. www.SeagarsDestin.com

SUSHI

JACKACUDAS SEAFOOD & SUSHI

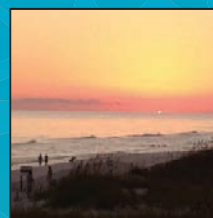
is a locally-owned seafood and sushi restaurant overlooking the historic Destin Harbor. The name derives from a famous fishing hole located 34 miles southwest of the Destin Harbor at 30°04.250N and 87°02.125W. Specializing in fresh, locally sourced seafood and products to provide our guests with classic Gulf Coast seafood dishes with New South culinary preparation. Open daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. 56 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-424-3507. www.jackacudas.com.

OSAKA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE AND SUSHI BAR

34745 Emerald Coast Pkwy, Destin, 650-4688.

OSAKA SUSHI ROCKS

It's the little Sushi house on the Lagoon. Osaka Sushi Rocks offers an extensive list of sushi, sashimi, and rolls, both classic and regional specialties. Friendly, serene atmosphere. Tempura, noodles and



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on the
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Dinner 4pm UNTIL ...

Join us for cocktails on the deck for sunset
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The locals' favorite since 1968!



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Restaurant Guide

teriyaki favorites also available. Wine and beer. \$4-50. 108 Cannery Lane, Village of Baytowne Wharf, 351-1006.

VKI JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE, SUSHI BAR & HIBACHI Serving authentic Japanese cuisine. Come in and enjoy fresh seafood, chicken, pork and beef cooked to suit most tastes. We offer Hibachi, Teriyaki, Tempura, Katsu, Japanese noodles and fresh Sushi. Beer, wine and sake. Happy hour, 4:40-6:30 p.m. Open seven days a week—lunch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; dinner, 4:30-9:30 p.m. 4552 U.S. 98 Suite 1 & 2, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2555. Gift certificates available.

TAPAS AND WINE

LA CREMA TAPAS AND CHOCOLATE Spanish-inspired tapas restaurant featuring unique tapas and Spanish wines. The European vibe provides a relaxing atmosphere where we encourage guests to share dishes, converse and enjoy Rosemary Beach living. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 38 Main St., Rosemary Beach, 850-624-7282, lacrematapas.com.

WATERFRONT DINING

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, \$4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. www.CrabIslandCantina.com.

FUDPUCKER'S BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL – OKALOOSA ISLAND Find out why Fudpucker's is #1 for Food and Fun. Fud's has offered great food, live alligators and world famous t-shirts since 1982, and our waterfront location across from the Ramada Plaza has it all—**Fat Daddy's Arcade, Escape Zone 60, Maximum Magic Dinner Show** and **Fudpucker's Watersports** where you can rent a jet ski, paddleboard or pontoon boat. You'll also find charter boats, the "Puc Dat" airboat and the Cattywampus Catamaran on our docks at Bayside Marina. 1318 Miracle Strip Parkway. Call 850-243-3833 or visit us at www.fudpucker.com.

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE From a volcano flowing with Margaritas to suspended airplanes, Margaritaville is more than a restaurant; it's a state of mind. Open daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Five O'Clock Somewhere celebration Mon.-Thu., 4-7 p.m. 76 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-7700. www.margaritavilledestin.com.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S DESTIN is located next to the Mid Bay Bridge and Legendary Marine on the Choctawhatchee Bay in beautiful Destin, Florida. A little off the beaten path, but we like a little more room to breathe. Specializing in the BEST Burgers in Paradise, Southern Favorites and Lucy's own GUMBO LOVE! Family friendly! Come by boat, anchor and wade in or call for our boat shuttle. Open daily at 11 a.m. Live music nightly. Separate allergy menu. Beach for the kids to play, Fountain of Youth, LuLu's Gift Shop. 850-710-LULU (5858). www.lulubuffett.com/destin.

VUE ON 30A showcases one of the best views for dining in all of South Walton. Open to the public and serving lunch, dinner, happy hour and Sunday brunch. Named "Best Restaurant

of 2014" by *The Beachcomber*, Vue on 30A offers the ultimate dining experience. Open for Sunday brunch, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; lunch Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; happy hour Tue.-Sat., 3-6 p.m.; dinner Tue.-Sat., 4:30-8:30 p.m. Two for one entrée specials Wed.-Sat., 4:30-6 p.m. 4801 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2305. www.Vueon30a.com.

Where to Spend Your Happy Hours in Beachcomberland

If your bar isn't listed here, you need to email chris@beachcomberdestin.com immediately!

THE BEACH HOUSE
4009 S. Sandestin Blvd., Miramar Beach
850-608-6300
RelaxDrinkEat.com
When: 4-7 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: \$4 house wine, \$3 well drinks, \$2 off select apps, and \$1 off all draft beers.

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-424-7417
When: Everyday from 3 to 6 p.m.
Drink Specials: \$4 house margaritas, \$3 well drinks and house wine, \$3 Corona, Corona Light, Bud Light and Miller Lite.

CAMILLE'S CAFE
2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin
850-337-8860
When: 3-5 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: Lots, including Camille's Signature Sangria. Plus a stunning view of the Gulf.

FISHHEADS
HarborWalk Village, Destin
When: 6-8 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: \$1 off premium drafts and Drink of the Day.

FOKKER'S PUB
215 Miracle Strip Parkway SE Unit #1, Fort Walton Beach
850-244-6666
When: 3-7 p.m. daily; 3 p.m.-close Tuesdays.
Drink Specials: Everything half price except Bushwhackers and high end bourbons.

45 CENTRAL WINE BAR
45 Central Square, Seaside
850-231-4545
fortyfivecentral.com
When: 4-6 p.m. daily. Paella nights Wednesdays and Fridays.
Drink Specials: Half off wine by the glass, \$1 off beer.

FUDPUCKER'S BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL
20001 Emerald Coast Parkway, Destin
850-654-4200
When: All day long.
Drink Specials: Smirnoff martinis \$4.99 all day every day. World Famous Fudpucker Punch \$5.99, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Daily deals with download of the Fud app.

FUDPUCKER'S BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL
1318 Miracle Strip Parkway, Okaloosa Island
When: All day long.
Drink Specials: Smirnoff martinis \$4.99 all day every day. World Famous Fudpucker Punch \$5.99, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Daily deals with download of the Fud app.

WINE BARS

45 CENTRAL WINE BAR Tucked away in Seaside's bustling Central Square, 45 Central offers a calm and relaxing atmosphere perfect for unwinding after a busy vacation day or a long day at work. Over 45 different wines available by the glass, bottle or case.



Original art by Angie Boling.

GRANDE VISTA
Emerald Grande, HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-337-8100, ext. 1550
When: 4-6 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: All drinks half off (except bottles of wine and Drink Special of the Day), plus specially priced apps.

HARRY T'S
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-654-4800
When: Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-7 p.m.—downstairs bar only.
Drink Specials: Half off drinks.

HOG'S BREATH SALOON
541 Harbor Blvd., Destin
850-837-5991
When: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and 10 p.m. to close, Mon.-Fri.
Drink Specials: Half off wells and calls, \$1 Bud Light draft, \$1 off domestic beer and wines.

JACKACUDAS
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-424-3507
When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Sushi bar and bar area only. Bonzai Wednesdays, 6 p.m.-close with half price sake, house wine, apps and sushi rolls.
Drink Specials: Half-price hot sake carafes, house wine pours, select draft beers and select apps, plus \$5 California rolls, spicy krab rolls and crunch salmon rolls.

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-460-7700
When: Monday-Friday, 10 p.m.-close.
Drink Specials: \$3 14-ounce Bud Light or Landshark draft, \$4 Barefoot cabernet and chardonnay, \$5 "Who's to Blame" margaritas and "5 O'Clock Somewhere" cocktails.

LANDSHARK'S PIZZA
300 Harbor Blvd., Destin
850-424-6743

Exclusive vintages sold by the glass using Coravin Wine Technology. Small plates of seasonal and regional pairings created daily by award-winning chef and owner **Jim Shirley**. Check us out online for wine classes, events and specials at **fortyfivecentral.com**. 45 Central Square, Seaside, 850-231-4545. Open 2 p.m.-midnight seven days a week.

When: 3-6 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: \$1 off well drinks, \$2.25 domestic drafts and bottles, \$4 wine.

LA PAZ
950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin
850-837-2247
When: 4-6 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: \$5 top shelf Margaritas, FREE chips and salsa.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S
4607 Legendary Marina Drive, Destin
850-710-LULU (5858)
When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 p.m.
Drink Specials: \$2 select drafts, \$8 pitchers, \$3 glass house wines, \$4 rocks house Margaritas, \$6 frozen house Margaritas and Daiquiris.

RED DOOR SALOON
240 Harbor Blvd., Destin
When: Mon.-Fri., 3-7 p.m., \$1 off beer, wine and wells. Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., two-for-one wells and beer.

SAMMY'S
1224 Santa Rosa Blvd., Fort Walton Beach
When: Early happy hour, 1-6 p.m. Late night happy hour, 2-4 a.m. Never a cover charge for escorted women, military, or restaurant-hotel-bar employees.
Drink Specials: Early happy hour—two for \$5 well drinks, \$10 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge. Late night happy hour—two for \$6 well drinks, \$12 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge after 3 a.m.

VUE ON 30A
4801 West County Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach
850-267-2305
When: Seven days a week, 3-6 p.m.
Drink Specials: \$5 house wine and discounts on well and call liquor and beer, plus up to 20 percent off select bar menu pricing.

Introducing the Unaffordable Care Act

By Joni Williams

In the past year, I've undergone a lot of diagnostics simply trying to get a, well, diagnosis. This included two MRIs, one CT scan and enough x-rays to turn me into a human glow stick. I also had a needle longer than my forearm stuck through my back, kind of like a rotisserie chicken. I was even poisoned in the name of medicine.

Honestly, up until then I didn't feel sick. But I sure did afterwards. Especially when I'd see the bills. Affordable Care Act? I think not. I'd suggest any ACA revisions be more aptly named the Unaffordable Care Act. But hey, what do I know? I'm not a member of Congress. If I were, I'd get a cushy 72 percent federal subsidy to help pay for a top-tier, gold-level ACA plan. And I definitely do not.

Trust me. I know firsthand how crazy expensive our healthcare system is. Monthly insurance premiums can cost anywhere from the equivalent of an economy car to a luxury house payment. Still, considering the exorbitant cost of medical diagnosis, treatment and physician fees, it's almost justifiable.

Likewise, I now understand why doctors charge so much. After all, they have bills to pay. Those Maseratis, Porsches and Mercedes they drive don't come cheap. And have you checked the price of a vacation home lately? No wonder they charge fees of \$20 and up *per minute*.

Thank goodness we don't have a single payer system like other nations. If we did, docs would probably be reduced to driving Toyotas and vacationing at the Red Roof Inn, just like the rest of us. Not even a rock star would settle for that. So it certainly doesn't make sense to expect those who work in America's highest paid professions to trim their luxuries.

Anyway, physician fees are a bargain compared to hospitals. It's estimated that my upcoming surgery and hospital stay will cost \$50-60,000 for three days. If I were up for a trip, I could have the same operation abroad for about a third of the cost. Only my insurance wouldn't cover it.

And unlike the U.S., where non-citizens are covered by Medicaid (even in states like Florida that didn't expand Medicaid coverage), other developed countries do not reciprocate our generosity. They actually make non-citizens and uninsured ex-pats pay for their medical treatment, including unplanned emergencies. Holy Hemoglobin! No wonder people don't want to become legal citizens when they immigrate to the U.S.

No matter how you look at it, the American healthcare system is sick. What's the cure? Obviously, no one really knows. So why not treat it like a disease? The politicians should stop tinkering with the symptoms and start at the root of the problem. Simply put, it's too expensive. We have, by far, the most expensive health care in the world. But it's also not the best, according to world rankings. Nor are our mortality rates, which are becoming more dismal by the day.

Does this mean American physicians aren't worthy of the nation's highest salaries? The good ones probably are. But plenty of others shouldn't even be in the game. I should know. Using my finest investigative journalism skills (translation—I hit Google), I discovered the surgeon who did my last operation was charged with grand theft during his residency after video surveillance revealed his not-so-secret habit of stealing medical supplies. He also settled a large malpractice claim just before my surgery.

I'm not sure what he did, but he caused me a lot of pain. But filing a malpractice suit was not an option for me. Except in clear-cut, extreme cases, it's almost impossible, ever since laws were tightened to protect physicians, reducing their liability insurance costs. Sounds good until you consider that medical error has now been deemed the third leading cause of death in the U.S.

There's no getting around it. The quality and cost of our healthcare system requires drastic improvement. And the government, estimated to pick up the tab for about 60 percent of healthcare, is in a prime position to negotiate, which President Trump—the man who literally wrote the book on making good deals—wisely realized. As the leader of the only nation in the free world to pay outrageously jacked up prices for prescription drugs, Trump was set to negotiate with the absurdly high-profit pharmaceutical industry. But according to at least one news brief, he changed his mind.

He may instead opt to do nothing. Apparently, he's ticked at fellow conservatives who refused to back his own recent healthcare plan, citing their lack of loyalty to him. Understandable, except his concept of loyalty is backwards. As public servants, politicians are expected to be loyal...to the people. All of us.

And as a good Southern mama would say, they should always remember we are the ones who gave them life—at least, as politicians. And, come the next election, we can take it away.

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Enter the ultimate cobia competition or watch the weigh-ins on the docks. There will be fishing excitement all along the Harbor! Registration info: 850-650-2400

APRIL 4 & MAY 2 | COOKING WITH THE CHEF

This entertaining and interactive cooking class hosted by Chef Jimmy McManus includes lunch and a complimentary glass of wine. 12pm in the HarborView Room. \$25 per person. Reservations: 850-424-0622

APRIL 16 | VISIT EASTER BUNNY & BRUNCH

Easter Brunch in the HarborView Room from 10am-2pm. Then hop down to HarborWalk Village for pictures with the Easter Bunny on the main stage from 2-4pm. Brunch reservations: 850-424-0622

MAY 3 | NASHVILLE SONGWRITERS SUNSHINE TOUR

Nashville singers & songwriters are bringing their soulful acoustic country melodies to the Destin Harbor for a live concert on the main stage! Begins at 7:30pm.

MAY 5 | CINCO DE MAYO PUB CRAWL

We're throwing a fiesta! At 6pm, grab your amigos for the Cinco de Mayo Pub Crawl. A \$10 pub crawl pass gives you drink specials at all the festive stops. Advance passes: EventBrite.com

MAY 11 | FINEST ON THE EMERALD COAST

Celebrate with the winners that YOU, the readers, chose to represent the Finest on the Emerald Coast 2017. There will be food, drinks and live entertainment beginning at 6pm. FIREWORKS FINALE at 9pm!

MAY 14 | MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Treat your mom to brunch with creative cuisine, outstanding service and breathtaking views. 10am-2pm in the HarborView Room. Reservations: 850-424-0622

MAY 27-28 | MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

It's time for flip flops, sun tans and SUMMER! Kick-off summer with live music on the Destin Harbor all weekend long! Don't miss the FIREWORKS FINALE on Sunday at 9pm followed by an exhilarating fire-spinning show on the main stage.

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